

Gc
929.2
R3964r
1884331

M. L.

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

GEN

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01416 0276

752

GENEALOGY
929.2
R3964R



Richardson



RICHARDSON HOMESTEAD

Jefferson, Maine

Built by

JUSTUS RICHARDSON

1827

The first Richardson house, built on the Mountain by Abiathar Richardson (b. 1751) in 1778, was on the opposite side of the road. All the children of Justus Richardson and his wife Jennet Richardson, née Bond, were born in the old house, which has long since been demolished.

RICHARDSON
LETTERS

RICHARDSON LETTERS

LETTERS WRITTEN TO
ALBERT RICHARDSON
FROM 1832 TO 1881, WITH BIOGRAPHICAL
SKETCHES AND A PARTIAL GENEALOGY OF THE
RICHARDSON FAMILY

Compiled by
CHARLES A. RICHARDSON, M.D.

Published Privately
JEFFERSON, MAINE
1954

COPYRIGHT 1955
BY CHARLES A. RICHARDSON
All rights reserved

BOND PRINTING COMPANY
JEFFERSON, MAINE

1884331

TO
LILLIAN HARTIGAN RICHARDSON
MY CONSTANT COMPANION AND
HELPMET OVER THE YEARS

1752 - P.O. 4897 - 12-1-75 Book City

CONTENTS

- I. Foreword
- II. Biographical Sketches of the Writers of the Richardson Letters
- III. Richardson Letters
- IV. First Baptist Church, Jefferson, Maine
- V. A Partial Genealogy of the Richardson Family
- VI. Biographical Sketches of Some Members of the Richardson Family Included in the Genealogy

FOREWORD

This collection of letters is a copy of letters which were written to Albert Richardson between 1832 and 1881. Most of them were written by his brothers Henry, James Y. and Asa B. Richardson and his brothers-in-law Samuel W. Jackson, Erastus F. Weeks and Samuel J. Bond; others were written by his sister Lorinda, his sisters-in-law Salome, Harriet and Annie Richardson, his son Samuel Albert Richardson and various relatives and friends.

We do not have replies to the letters, but it is reasonable to assume from the number of letters written to Mr. Richardson that he was a good correspondent: the collection numbers about two thousand. He did, however, keep copies of a few letters written by himself, six of which are included.

In selecting letters for publication, an attempt has been made to include those which will best reveal the character of the writer and be most helpful in understanding what life in Jefferson was like during this epoch.

The four Richardson brothers and the three brothers-in-law were sons of farmers, but none of them became a farmer: all were engaged in business for themselves. Three of them were members of the Maine Legislature. They took many things for granted that are now looked on with more or less doubt: their religion was sincere and vital; success meant prosperity in business and financial security; saving money was regarded one of the cardinal virtues; hard work and long hours were not considered hardships but duties.

The only education which most of them had was obtained in the district schools. Two or three went for a short time to China Academy and Asa B. Richardson was a college graduate.

“The applause of listening senates to command,
 The threats of pain and ruin to despise,
 To scatter plenty o’er a smiling land,
 And read their history in a nation’s eyes,
 Their lot forbade: nor circumscribed alone
 Their growing virtues, but their crimes confined—
 Forbade to wade through slaughter to a throne,
 And shut the gates of mercy on mankind.”

To visualize the material changes of the past century is not so difficult as it is to comprehend the change which has taken place in people’s thinking. The demand for a paternalistic form of government seems to be increasing. To meet this demand, heavy income taxes, in addition to the high cost of living, are making it increasingly difficult to carry out a program calculated to provide for emergencies and old age. Harry Hopkins’ New-Deal slogan, “We will tax and tax, and spend and spend, and elect and elect”, seems to have been adopted as the form of political opportunism most likely to succeed. Sporadic attempts to establish a sound economy are made, but collapse when confronted by pressure groups. What is to be the ultimate fate of our financial system and our individual liberty seems to concern politicians much less than what will be most likely to return them to office at the next election.

Today the airplane can carry atom bombs to any part of the world in a few hours. The advances which have been made in the manufacture and employment of munitions of war have proceeded far more rapidly

than the facility of nations in devising methods of preventing a holocaust which may result in universal destruction.

Yet, in spite of the social, economic and technical changes which have taken place, certain values remain unchanged: many of the letters reveal a state of mind as well calculated to meet today's crises as it was to meet the crises of one hundred years ago. It is this mirror of the state of mind — the thinking of men and women one hundred years ago — that is one of the principal reasons for publishing letters which otherwise are of interest to so few people.

No attempt has been made to edit the letters. In reading them, it should be borne in mind that they were written hurriedly, often with frequent interruptions. While the letters do not serve as a measure of the ability of the writers, they probably reflect the writers' personalities better than would more studied efforts.

It is hardly possible to read the letters without marveling at the great advances which have been made in surgery and in the control of contagious and communicable diseases: diphtheria carried away whole families; pulmonary tuberculosis was very prevalent; epidemics of smallpox and typhoid fever were frequent; pneumonia was a scourge during the winter months. The accounts of the terrible epidemics and the high mortality from these diseases cannot fail to remind us that sanitation, inoculation and antibiotics have nearly eliminated some of the most feared diseases. In surgery, the removal of an ovarian cyst, which is now regarded as a comparatively simple operation, was considered a miracle.

These letters are published privately for the Richardson family. The edition numbers fifty copies, none of which is for sale. It is hoped that the serious and

reverent attitude revealed by many of the letters may create in the present and future generations a sense of responsibility and a desire to maintain in their own lives qualities worthy of their ancestors.

To enable the reader better to understand the letters, short sketches of the lives of the writers are given. These are arranged in alphabetical order. The numbers at the bottom of each sketch indicate the letters written by the subject of the sketch.

Care has been taken to have all the information correct, but it is difficult to record a genealogy with no errors. It is hoped that the errors are few and that the large amount of correct data may atone for that which is incorrect.

The publisher wishes to express his gratitude to the late J. Asbury Pitman, Ed.D., for furnishing information concerning the genealogy of the Richardson family; to Miss Eva A. Pratt for reading the entire collection of two thousand letters, and having over three hundred and fifty of them typed, from which the letters to be published were selected; to Mrs. Mary Westervelt for her care in typing the manuscript; and to Mr. Raymond L. Bond for his cooperation in producing the book.

C. A. R.

Closter, New Jersey

September 1, 1954

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE WRITERS OF THE RICHARDSON LETTERS

ALFORD, EDWIN R. was born in Old Town, Maine, November 22, 1829. He married Mary Ann Barton, née Richardson, after the death of her first husband, Dr. Thomas F. Barton. The Alfords lived in Old Town where he worked surveying logs in the boom after they had been floated down the Penobscot River. They had two sons, Lore and Abbott Edwin Alford.

187, 195, 199

BARTON, (ALFORD), MARY ANN, née Richardson (niece, b. Nov. 10, 1836) was born in Old Town, Maine. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Richardson. With the exception of five years (1860-1865), during which she lived in Jefferson, Maine, she spent her whole life in Old Town. She married Dr. Thomas F. Barton November 24, 1859 and after the death of Dr. Barton in 1867, she married Edwin R. Alford November 18, 1869.

She was of medium height, rather slight of frame, with dark brown hair and blue eyes. She was a woman of refinement and high principles, and was unselfishly devoted to her family.

See: Barton, Thomas Flint, M.D. and Alford, Edwin R.

63, 112, 115, 119, 168

BARTON, THOMAS FLINT, M.D. (b. Dec. 5, 1821: d. Feb. 7, 1867) began the practice of medicine in Jefferson, Maine, in 1853. For the first seven years he boarded at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Bond in the

North Village. Letters written during this time indicate that he had an active practice. On November 24, 1859, Dr. Barton married Mary Ann Richardson, daughter of Henry Richardson of Old Town, Maine. In 1860 he built a house on the north side of the road which goes by the First Baptist Church in Jefferson, located about 1,000 feet east of the church. This house commands a fine view of Damariscotta Lake. It was occupied by George B. Erskine and his family for many years.

The Bartons lived only four and one-half years in their new home. They moved to Old Town, Maine, in the spring of 1865, where Dr. Barton practiced medicine successfully until the fall of 1866, when he was stricken by pulmonary tuberculosis and died February 7, 1867.

Dr. and Mrs. Barton had two children, Henry C. (b. Sept. 25, 1860) and Kittee (b. Aug. 17, 1862: d. Nov. 24, 1864). Henry C. Barton graduated from Colby College in the class of 1883. During his college years, he was the first string pitcher on the Colby baseball team. For over fifty years, he had charge of the Boston office of the Piscataquis Pulp and Paper Co.

72, 78, 80, 82, 94, 98, 110, 111, 114, 117

BOND, EMILY, née Wright (wife of brother-in-law and third wife, b. Sept. 25, 1820: d. Jan. 24, 1904) was born in Jefferson, Maine. Her father, Josiah Wright, was a blacksmith and had a shop at the Bridge, where the Wright family lived. Her mother was Alice Eames, a daughter of Phineas Eames, Sr., and sister of Paul Eames. She married Samuel J. Bond when a young woman and after his death, married Albert Richardson in 1895.

Mrs. Bond seemed to enjoy all kinds of housework. She prided herself on having the cleanest house. the most bountiful table and the whitest clothes of any one

in the village. She was a hard and persistent worker. The bakery and laundry wagons did not make daily or weekly calls; modern plumbing, central heating and electric lights were not in use; wood was the only fuel; kerosene lamps furnished light; but, even under these conditions, she felt it no hardship to do her work without help and found time to mend, and even to make new clothes for the children in her care.

As noted in the sketch concerning her husband, Mrs. Bond was foster-mother to three orphan children. To say that she was good to these children does not do her justice. If there was any fault in her care, it was in over-indulging them. She was extremely patient and always ready to do things for their amusement. An excellent reader and story-teller, she spent hours reading to them and telling them stories which were the outcome of her imagination. The children named the subject and she produced the story.

Mrs. Bond was slightly under medium height, rather plump but never too fat. Her eyes were blue, her hair brown and curly, always worn in long ringlets. Her face was round, her expression pleasant and her manner cheerful. She was a happy combination of good-looks, usefulness and kindness.

60, 89

BOND, SAMUEL J. (brother-in-law, b. May 4, 1821: d. March 5, 1894) was born in the old Bond homestead on the east side of Damariscotta Lake, married Emily Wright. When a young man, he built a house and store at the North Village in Jefferson. These buildings were on the north side of the main road through the village at the top of the hill just east of the bridge across the West Branch of the Damariscotta Pond River. He and his wife made their home here their entire married life.

The letters indicate that he was frequently discouraged by lack of business and, at one time, had his merchandise partly packed in anticipation of moving to Damariscotta. Illness caused him to abandon this plan, and he continued to run the store in Jefferson with fair success. While the business was never large, it supplied a good living and was always solvent.

Mr. Bond was one of those rare men who seem to live irreproachable lives. Beyond the commoner virtues — honesty, temperance, unselfishness, kindness, and humility — he had a spiritual nature that made these qualities seem commonplace. He was of a retiring disposition, not given to expressing himself dogmatically, but was sociable and glad to meet his friends. He was a member of the Baptist church and deeply interested in its activities. In no sense fanatical, his religion was the constant guide of his daily life.

Mr. Bond was five feet, nine inches tall and weighed about 135 pounds. His eyes were blue. His dark brown hair turned gray early and became white many years before he died. He wore a long beard. His expression was inclined to be sad. This may be due to his not having had very good health. During the last few years of his life, he was subject to epileptic convulsions.

Mr. and Mrs. Bond never had any children, but they reared three children: Samuel Albert Richardson, Horace and Ella Chapman. Samuel Albert Richardson's mother died three weeks after his birth and he was taken into the Bond home in December, 1851. Ella and Horace Chapman were left orphans in November, 1863, when their father and mother died of diphtheria. The Chapman farm is opposite the First Baptist Church in Jefferson, and was the home of the Fish family for many years. Samuel Albert's mother was Mr. Bond's sister and Horace and Ella's mother was Mrs. Bond's

sister. All of these children remained in the Bond home until they made homes for themselves. Horace and Ella had some money from their father's estate. None of this was used. Mr. and Mrs. Bond provided for them as they would their own children, sending Horace to business college and Ella to Castine Normal School. When they became of age the money realized from their father's estate, with accrued interest, was turned over to them.

40, 42, 46, 51, 52, 58, 68, 71, 79, 81, 87, 88, 90, 92, 93, 95, 105, 107, 126, 136, 140, 144, 146, 151, 154, 155, 162, 169, 176, 185

HOPKINS, SOLOMAN, a friend who went to California during the gold rush of 1860. His home was in Old Town, Maine.

109, 127

JACKSON, LORINDA, née Richardson (sister, b. Aug. 30, 1812: d. Dec. 15, 1895) was born in Jefferson, Maine. She was educated in the district school and although this education was very meager, she was well informed, used excellent English and was a woman of unusual refinement and intelligence. She was slightly larger than her sister, Jennet, and like her, very stout.

10, 44, 96, 104, 106, 153

JACKSON, SAMUEL WATERS (brother-in-law, b. Nov. 30, 1812: d. May 25, 1896) was born in Jefferson, Maine, married Lorinda Richardson December 24, 1839.

At about the time of his marriage, Mr. Jackson became associated with his brother-in-law Albert Richardson in the store at West Jefferson.* It was here that

* For many years a Post Office known as West Jefferson was located in this store. Erastus F. Weeks was postmaster. For the location of store see sketch of Albert Richardson.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson's two children died, as described in the sketch of Albert Richardson. After the death of his wife in December, 1851, Mr. Richardson withdrew from the partnership; and in 1855, Mr. Jackson, having been appointed U. S. Collector of Customs with an office in Waldoboro, sold the business to Erastus F. Weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Jackson spent the rest of their lives in Waldoboro.

Mr. Jackson was of medium height, rather thickset; and wore a full beard, which, as well as his hair, became white in his latter years. He had a very deep bass voice and a dignified manner. He was one of the most prominent and respected men in Waldoboro, being a justice of the peace, a dealer in real estate, president of the Medomak National Bank and for nine terms first selectman of Waldoboro.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson had three daughters who lived to maturity: Abbie, who died in her twenties; Ellen, who married Mr. Sproul; and Mary Ann, who married Mr. Longren, a Congregational minister.

5, 6, 14, 55, 124, 130, 145, 202, 204

MYRICK, JOSIAH was a resident of Damariscotta who acted as caretaker of the schooner "Coral" while she was berthed in Damariscotta.

13, 20

RICHARDSON, ABBOTT (nephew, b. June 19, 1841: d. March, 1921) was born in Old Town, Maine. He was the son of Henry Richardson and his wife Lucy Richardson, née Eaton.

Abbott Richardson married Mary Elvira Follett, the daughter of a Baptist minister, in 1866. While young, they moved to California and made their home there. They had three children: James Henry, who was

drowned while duck-hunting at 21 years of age, Edwin Abbott, who died at 25, and Mary Edith, who was born in San Andreas, California, November 23, 1873. Mary Edith Richardson married Jesse Scuyler Kenney June 18, 1898.

Abbott Richardson died at Melbourne, Australia in March, 1921; his wife Mary Elvira Richardson died at Oakland, California, July 22, 1917.

143

RICHARDSON, ABIATHAR (cousin), son of Ezra Richardson, was born in Jefferson, Maine, August 29, 1809. For a time he owned and operated a small tannery on the lot where the blacksmith shop now stands in the North Village. While a young man, he migrated to what was then Wisconsin Territory and engaged in the lumber business. Disposing of this business, he went to what was to become Buchanan County, Iowa, wearing a money belt containing over a thousand dollars in gold. Here he settled in a place called Buffalo Grove and built the first frame house in the county, constructed wholly of black-walnut lumber.

When the railroad came through, it was located three or four miles from Buffalo Grove, and a new village was built near the right of way. This village is Aurora, Iowa.

Abiathar Richardson had two sons, Ezra and Frank, both of whom lived in Aurora.

Ezra Richardson was one of the most prominent citizens of Aurora. He was president of the bank and also operated a large farm. One of his relatives from Maine, who visited the family in Aurora, described him as a man of "distinguished presence and cultured manners". He married Mary King. They had four children

(Ralph, George, Frank and Ruth), most of whom settled in or near Aurora. Ezra Richardson died in October, 1938.

Frank Richardson was a lawyer and practiced in Aurora. He died when comparatively young, and his widow and two sons moved to California.

Abiathar Richardson is said to have bequeathed a farm to his sister Mary Hamilton, née Richardson. She and her son Albert migrated from Maine to Buchanan County, Iowa and spent the rest of their lives there.

In 1938 Albert Hamilton and his wife were living in Aurora. They were both over eighty years of age.

1, 21, 190

RICHARDSON, ALBERT (b. Dec. 21, 1814: d. Apr. 9, 1898) was born in the old Richardson house on the Mountain in Jefferson, Maine. He was educated in the district schools of Jefferson and China Academy. From his youth he was interested in music, especially in singing. He had a fine tenor voice and taught many singing schools in Jefferson and other towns in Lincoln County as well as in Old Town, Maine.

At twenty-three years of age, he opened a store in Jefferson. The letters give no clue to the location of this store or to its fate. It is probable, however, that the business was continued by the partnership of Mr. Richardson with his brother-in-law Samuel W. Jackson, in the store at the foot of the hill west of the First Baptist Church.

In 1839 he and his father Justus Richardson raised the capital to build the schooner "Coral".* Two years later, the loss from this enterprise caused him to be

* For further information concerning the schooner "Coral", see sketch of Justus Richardson.

what was, for him, heavily in debt. With the intention of marrying, he had cut and sawed lumber for a house, which he had planned to build near his father's house on the Mountain. The marriage was postponed, the lumber sold and the next three years devoted to earning money to pay the debts created by building the schooner.

On June 13, 1843, Mr. Richardson married his cousin Mary Ann Bond. After his marriage, he and Mr. Jackson continued to conduct the general store in West Jefferson. Both families lived in the house near the store. By 1850 the Richardsons had three small children and the Jacksons, two. The oldest of these children was slightly over five years. On April 20, 1850, the oldest Richardson girl developed a virulent case of diphtheria and died* one week later. Within twenty days all five children were dead. On December 2, 1851, the Richardsons' last child, Samuel Albert, was born. Three weeks later his mother died of puerperal sepsis.

A relative who attended the funeral of Mary Ann Richardson, in describing it, said that it was an occasion of unusual sadness. The services were held in the Baptist church, of which she had been a member since she was seventeen years old. Many of the relatives and friends who attended were in tears as the sermon was preached and hymns sung. Mr. Richardson sat alone near the coffin, the only member of the family left except his infant son. At no time did his face or actions reveal emotion. This incident is mentioned to call attention to one part of Mr. Richardson's character. How deeply he felt his loss is indicated by the letters and the long period of sorrow which ensued; but he considered it undignified to show his feelings. Emotions

* See letter 34.

were, to him, a private matter and not to be displayed in public.

After the death of his wife, Mr. Richardson placed his infant son in the care of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Bond, who lived in that part of Jefferson known as the North Village. This was a time of loneliness and uncertainty. He was to have no home of his own for the next fourteen years. Much of this time he spent in Old Town, Maine, with intervals when he returned to Jefferson.

In 1852-1853 he represented Jefferson in the Maine State Legislature.

In 1853 he decided to make his home permanently in Old Town and bought a store in that town from Mr. Spring. Although the business was successful, he sold it the next year feeling that he should become a minister. Later, he gave up this idea and went in business with his brother James, in Old Town. This, like his former business, was a general store.

In 1861 he sold his interest in the Old Town store and began looking for a new business opportunity. The next year he joined his youngest brother, Asa, in a commission business. The firm name and address was Richardson Brothers and Stafford, 1 Stone St., New York, New York. They dealt in a variety of farm produce, specializing in the sale of hops. While in New York, Mr. Richardson made his home in Brooklyn where his brother lived. He continued in this business for three years and then returned to Maine.

On March 18, 1865, Mr. Richardson married Mrs. Eliza Ann Kennedy, widow of Dr. Abiel W. Kennedy. Until Mrs. Richardson's death in 1872, they lived very happily in Warren, Maine, occupying the house in which Dr. and Mrs. Kennedy had lived. As was his usual custom, Mr. Richardson was active in the Baptist

church. Both he and Mrs. Richardson were regular attendants of all the services. He was for several years leader of the choir and superintendent of the Sunday school. In 1867 the choir of the Baptist church in Warren gave him a silver service consisting of a large water pitcher, appropriately engraved, two goblets and a tray.

Connected with the Kennedy homestead was a farm, which Mr. Richardson managed. He taught evening singing schools in Warren and Waldoboro. At one time he was in business with Mr. McCollum, conducting a general store. He also built a store in Warren, and had it partially stocked with merchandise when it was destroyed by a fire. The store and contents were fully insured.

Eliza Ann Richardson died October 4, 1872. The greater part of her estate, which was a substantial amount, was left to Mr. Richardson. Under the date of March 6, 1873, he made the following entry in his diary: "This day broke up housekeeping and Albert and I went to Jefferson this afternoon. Sadness fills my heart as I leave my good home". After leaving Warren, he made his home in Jefferson for the rest of his life.

During the greater part of 1873 and 1874, Mr. Richardson boarded at the homes of his brothers-in-law S. J. Bond and E. F. Weeks. As executor of his late wife's will, he took the necessary legal steps to transfer the property and made his final accounting with the judge of the Probate Court in Rockland January 20, 1874. He made several trips during 1873 visiting his brother James and other relatives in Old Town and his brother Asa in Brooklyn, New York. He also went to the Maine state fair, the musical convention at Wiscasset, as well as to camp meeting at Ellsworth and other religious meetings.

On February 20, 1874, he bought the house in which the Richardson family lived for many years. This house is located on the main road through the North Village (Route 126). It is on the east side of the road, at the top of the hill south of the bridge crossing the West Branch of the Damariscotta Pond River and just north of the cemetery. The land extends from the road to the Damariscotta Pond River which forms the northern and eastern boundary for over one-half a mile. Extensive repairs were made on the house in 1874, and a shed was built joining the house to the barn. The furnishings of the house in Warren, including many books, were moved to the house in Jefferson.

On December 17, 1874, his son S. Albert, with his bride of one day, arrived in Jefferson; and Mr. Richardson, in company with them, began housekeeping in the new home. This arrangement continued pleasantly for over twenty years, during which the family increased from three to seven.

These were happy years. Mr. Richardson's financial position was such that he did not need to work, but he was far from idle. He enjoyed the management of the farm, and hardly a day passed without his devoting some time to it. This was especially true during the planting, haying and harvesting seasons. In addition to planting potatoes, beans and corn, fields of small grains were sowed to which grass seed was added for the next year's crop of hay. Hay was the most important crop, as there were horses, cows, steers and sheep to be fed during the long winter months.

He also had his own special small garden from which he supplied the family with vegetables. He would allow no one else to have anything to do with this garden. All the rows were very straight; weeds were kept under control and when the vegetables were

picked, they were removed carefully so as not to injure the remaining plants. Not only was no one allowed to work in the garden, but few were allowed to go in it.

The biggest yearly job was the sawing, splitting and housing of wood, which was the only fuel used for heating the house and cooking. The wood was bought in the form of cordwood. About twelve cords of hard wood were used each year. The large sticks were four feet in length, and had to be sawed and split before being used. This work was all done by hand, occupying much of the time during late winter and early spring. While Mr. Richardson did not do all the work himself, buying and fitting the wood was his concern, and he usually spent several hours of each day at the wood pile.

He took no part in the care of the domestic animals. About the only time that he had any contact with them was when he wanted to go somewhere and needed a horse to drive.

In 1895 Mr. Richardson married Emily Wright Bond. After this he moved to the home of his third wife, where he lived until his death on April 9, 1898.

When a young man, Mr. Richardson became a member of the First Baptist Church in Jefferson and continued an active church member throughout his life, serving as one of the deacons for many years. He was constant in his attendance at all the meetings of the church. This included not only the Sunday services, but also the prayer meetings, monthly conferences and quarterly meetings. He practically never failed to attend any of these gatherings. He was generous in his financial support to the church, as well as to foreign and domestic missions. He gave the large chandelier still in use at the church, and at his death left several thousand dollars to missions.

Mr. Richardson was five feet, eight inches tall and his average weight was 155 pounds. His hair was dark brown and continued abundant but streaked with gray as he grew older. He always wore a long beard, shaving his upper lip only. His eyes were bluish gray, his teeth white and regular. It used to be said in the family that he would wear his teeth out cleaning them so much. This was not the case, as he never had a tooth filled; and, at the time of his death at 83, he had all of his teeth except two which had been extracted.

He was a Republican in politics and a life-long reader of the New York Weekly Tribune. His conversation was usually serious and concise, but he enjoyed jokes and was an interested listener to the stories of more voluble people. He always asked a blessing before his meals and knelt in prayer before retiring at night.

Mr. Richardson's outstanding characteristics were his devotion to the church, his honesty, his conservatism in business, his calmness, his dignity and his control of his emotions.

34, 118, 171, 172, 174, 175

RICHARDSON, ANNIE* C., née Foster (sister-in-law), wife of Asa B. Richardson, was the sister of John Foster, who was professor of ancient languages at Colby College for many years. She was well-educated and very lady-like in appearance. She was talented as an artist and taught art before her marriage and later in her husband's private school in Brooklyn.

Mr. and Mrs. Richardson were well-suited to each other. They were actively associated with the religious, social and artistic life of Brooklyn for many years.

48, 64, 73, 84, 161

* The name on her tombstone is "Anne", but all of her letters are signed "Annie".

RICHARDSON, ASA B. (youngest brother, b. July 10, 1821: d. May 7, 1908 in Brooklyn, N.Y.) was born in Jefferson, Maine. After finishing school in Jefferson, he prepared for college at China Academy and entered Colby College. He left Colby in his senior year and finished his college work at Columbian College, Washington, D. C., graduating from that institution with the degree of A.B. in 1850.

The next three years were spent in Old Town and Jefferson. He was a clerk in his brother Henry's store, taught school and helped his father on his farm. During this time he was trying to get a satisfactory teaching position. In 1853 he married Miss Annie C. Foster.

In 1854 Mr. Richardson secured a position as teacher in a private school in Brooklyn, New York. From this time until his death in 1909, he made his home in Brooklyn. For several years he conducted his own private school for boys and later had a long successful career as a commission merchant. A part of this time he was associated with his brother Albert, to whom these letters were written. Richardson Brothers conducted their business at 1 Stone Street, New York City. He was a member of the Brooklyn school board and a member of the New York Produce Exchange.

Mr. Richardson built a large house and a stable for horses and carriages at 300 Eighth Street, Brooklyn. This location was then in the country, but it is now a part of the ground on which the Prospect Theatre is built. He and his wife lived in this house for the rest of their lives. They had one adopted daughter, Isabelle, who married Frank Bristowe of Brooklyn. She died when a young woman from childbirth. The baby also died.

Mr. Richardson was a large man, six feet tall, and weighed about 200 pounds. His dress and manner were

that of a polished gentleman. His conversation was cheerful and interesting, although there was very little to make him cheerful during the last years of his life, which he spent alone in the Brooklyn house. He lived many years after the death of his wife and daughter. His relatives were in Maine and his Brooklyn friends for the most part dead. A rather mysterious man by the name of Hayden acted as cook and housekeeper.

26, 27, 29, 30, 31, 33, 35, 45, 62, 65, 67, 69, 74, 75, 76, 83, 86, 108, 116, 128, 129, 132, 133, 134, 159, 160, 164, 182, 197, 198, 201, 203, 208, 209, 210, 212

RICHARDSON, ELIZA ANN, née Counce (second wife, b. Aug. 8, 1816: d. Oct. 4, 1872) was born in Warren, Maine. She married Dr. Abiel W. Kennedy May 7, 1832.

Dr. Kennedy was born in Jefferson, Maine, June 29, 1804. His father was Nathaniel Kennedy and his mother was, before her marriage, Polly Bond, whose sister Jennet Bond was Albert Richardson's mother. He graduated from Bowdoin Medical College in 1829.

In 1833 Dr. and Mrs. Kennedy moved to Old Town, where he practiced medicine until 1849, when they returned to Warren. The Kennedys had one son, Edwin H. Kennedy, who died in his youth. They are often mentioned in the letters from Old Town.

After Dr. Kennedy's death, Mrs. Kennedy married Albert Richardson March 23, 1865. Mrs. Richardson was well-educated, refined and very devout. She was constant in her attendance and liberal in her support of the Baptist Church. Judging from the large number of missionary and other religious books in her library, she was a great reader of such works.

and his family moved from Jefferson to Warren, as the "Annals of Warren", published in 1851, mention him and his wife as early settlers of that town. However, the Jefferson town books record the names of ten of their children as having been born in Jefferson. The youngest of these children was born in 1819.

RICHARDSON, EMILIE BENNETT, née Litchfield (daughter-in-law, b. Aug. 12, 1849: d. Nov. 1, 1912) was born in that section of Freeport, Maine known as Porter's Landing. She was the older daughter of Charles A. and Rachel Litchfield, née Soule. Both were of English descent, their ancestors having immigrated to America during colonial days. She had one sister, Hannah, who married Marshall A. Bond of Jefferson, Maine.

Never in robust health, she bore four children, gave them good care while they were young and lived to see them all reach maturity. During these years she usually had help with the house-work, but rarely entrusted the care of her children to anyone else. She encouraged them to plan a future that promised a success in business; but was more concerned that they should become active members of the church, and live lives in conformity with its teaching. She was herself a member of the First Baptist Church of Jefferson and always had a deep interest in its welfare, singing in the choir for many years.

She had a melodious contralto voice, golden hair, blue eyes, weighed 120 pounds, and was about five feet, five inches tall. (See sketch Samuel Albert Richardson) 200, 213

RICHARDSON, HARRIET O., née Oaks (sister-in-law), wife of James Y. Richardson, lived to an advanced age, making her home in Old Town. After her husband's death, she lived with her son George, who never married.

Aunt Harriet, as the Richardson connections in Old Town called her, was highly regarded for her force of character and wise council.

RICHARDSON, HENRY (oldest brother, b. Jan. 25, 1809: d. March 9, 1868) was born in Jefferson, Maine. He was educated in the district school in Jefferson and at China Academy.

In 1831 he left his native town and opened a general store in Old Town, Maine. Two years later, he and his cousin, Dr. A. W. Kennedy, built the Richardson and Kennedy Block.

He married Lucy Maxwell Eaton February 4, 1836. They had three children: Mary Ann, Abbott (see sketches of Mary Ann Barton and Abbott Richardson) and an infant daughter, born in 1847, at whose birth both mother and infant died and were buried together. Mr. Richardson's second wife was Salome Eaton, his first wife's younger sister.

Mr. Richardson, highly respected as an honorable man and a public-spirited citizen, took a prominent part in the affairs of Old Town. For fifteen years he was chosen moderator of the annual town meeting. He was also selectman, Indian agent, state senator and member of the Governor's Council.

3, 4, 7, 11, 22, 23, 24, 36, 37, 41, 49, 61, 66, 120, 158, 165, 166

RICHARDSON, JAMES Y. (brother) born in Jefferson, Maine, December 18, 1816, went to Old Town, Maine, when twenty-one years of age and made his home there for the rest of his life. At first he worked in a box factory and did lumbering in the northern woods. In 1849 he went to California and spent three years pros-

pecting, but did not find any large amount of gold. On his return to Old Town he became proprietor of a general store.

Mr. Richardson married Harriet Oaks December 3, 1846. They had four children: Willis, Rose, John and George. Willis was married but had no children. Rose married a man by the name of Bowman. John and George never married. All of the children spent their lives, for the most part, in Old Town.

8, 9, 28, 32, 39, 77, 85, 170, 178, 180, 181, 188, 189, 192, 194, 205, 206

RICHARDSON, JUSTUS (father, b. July 9, 1782: d. June 28, 1870) was born in Jefferson. He was the son who always made his home on the Mountain, buying a part of the original farm from his two brothers in 1806, after the death of their father. He married Jennet Bond July 9, 1807. They lived in the old Richardson house until 1827, when he built the large, square frame house* which still stands at the foot of the hill on which is located the tower of the Maine State Forestry Service. Their children — Henry, Mary Ann, Lorinda, Albert, James, Jennet and Asa — were all born in the old house.

Justus Richardson had very little formal education. However, he must have been a man of more than average energy and enterprise. At twenty-three years of age, we find him paying his brothers, Abiathar and Ezra, \$1800 for their share of 180 acres of the original farm; at forty-five, he built a large, modern house; and at fifty-eight, he and his son Albert had managed to command sufficient capital to build the schooner "Coral". In the meantime he and his wife had raised a family of seven children.

* See cut.

The story of the "Coral" is an unusual one. She was constructed on the shore of Damariscotta Lake near the mouth of the Damariscotta Pond River. During the winter of 1839-1840, she was hauled by many yokes of oxen over the ice of the lake to tide water at Damariscotta. The hauling was accomplished in one day. She remained on the ice at Damariscotta until it thawed in April, 1840. In December of that year, she was in Boston, Massachusetts, where they made some alterations of the masts and sails and took on a cargo for St. Marks, Florida. They arrived at St. Marks February 7, 1841, after a passage of 44 days, during which they were blown ashore and nearly wrecked on one of the Dry Tortugas islands.

St. Marks is a very small town located on the St. Marks River near where it empties into the Gulf of Mexico. It is twenty miles due south of Tallahassee. The population in 1940 was 338 and the appearance of the town does not indicate that it was any larger in 1841. It consists of about a dozen houses, one store, which is also the post office, and a dilapidated wharf. Even now, pigs run at large in the muddy streets. Of what the cargo consisted and why St. Marks was their destination is not explained in any of the letters. From St. Marks they returned to Thomaston, Maine, where they disposed of the "Coral" at a loss.

Mr. Richardson and his son, Albert, who was associated with him in this venture, were much disappointed in its failure. They had worked long and hard on a project from which they had expected a substantial profit. Instead of profit, it brought them debt. However, the debts were paid and the farm remained free from any mortgage.

From this time Mr. Richardson continued to work his farm on the Mountain until he was no longer able

to do so. During the last two or three years which they spent on the farm, Erastus Weeks, who had married their daughter Jennet, operated the farm on shares. At the end of this time, Mr. Weeks took over the store from Samuel W. Jackson, and Mr. and Mrs. Richardson spent the last years of their lives with Mr. and Mrs. Weeks. Both Mr. and Mrs. Richardson lived to an advanced age. He died at 88 years of age and she at 83. Note: For further information concerning the store and schooner, see sketches of Albert Richardson, Saml. W. Jackson, and E. F. Weeks.

18, 19

RICHARDSON, SALOME, née Eaton (sister-in-law, Sept. 28, 1813: d. Jan. 19, 1870) was Henry Richardson's second wife and his first wife's sister. She had no children of her own but was a devoted mother to her sister's children, who were five and ten years old when their mother died.

She was a very religious woman, a member of the Baptist Church at Old Town and a constant worker for the welfare of the church and community.

177, 179

RICHARDSON, SAMUEL ALBERT (son, b. Dec. 2, 1851: d. May 31, 1932) was born in Jefferson, Maine. He was the only surviving child of Albert Richardson and Mary Ann Richardson, née Bond. Three weeks after his birth, his mother died; and he was taken to the home of his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Bond, who lived in that part of Jefferson known as the North Village. They, being childless, lavished on him all the love and care that they would have devoted to their own child. Albert, as he was called, always spoke of them as "Father and Mother Bond".

His childhood was a happy one. He was obedient and helpful, doing well in school. He received no formal education other than that given in the district school at the North Village except a short stay at the Farmington Normal School, which his longing to return to Jefferson soon terminated. While a young child, he suffered from eczema, which recurred at times during his adult life. He also had diphtheria and what is known as abscesses in both ears, which, no doubt, contributed to the extreme deafness from which he suffered during the last few years of his life. He literally grew up helping his uncle in his general store, which was to be his occupation for the greater part of his life.

On December 16, 1874, he married Emily Bennett Litchfield at her home in Freeport, Maine. Miss Litchfield had come to Jefferson to conduct a millinery store during the summer months. This stay in Jefferson led to an attachment of the young couple which resulted in their marriage.

The day after their marriage they came to the house in Jefferson which was their home for the rest of their lives. This house had been purchased a few months before by Mr. Richardson's father, who was to live with them.

Mr. Richardson became a partner in his uncle's store and continued the business after his uncle died. At one time he left the store for about two years and worked the farm connected with the home in Jefferson. Owing to his uncle's failing health and the difficulty of making a living from the farm, he returned to the store although he never liked the work. However, he attended to the business carefully, keeping the books himself, and conducted the post office, which was in the store. He bought the local undertaking business and added that to his other activities.

During the last few years that he was in business, he employed George Hoffses as clerk and general helper. This association was a very satisfactory one; and, when he gave up the store, Mr. Hoffses continued the business.

About 1903 Mr. and Mrs. Richardson spent the winter in Southern Pines, North Carolina, and continued to spend their winters there for the rest of their lives, having bought a home one block from the railroad station. Shortly after this Mr. Richardson retired, but they continued to spend their summers in Jefferson.

During the years which Mr. and Mrs. Richardson went to Southern Pines, Mrs. Richardson's health was not good. When a young girl, she suffered from tubercular glands of the neck, and during her adult life had several pulmonary haemorrhages. Although a positive diagnosis of tuberculosis was never made, the symptoms indicate that she suffered from a chronic form of this disease.

Their daughter, Mary E. Richardson, who had graduated as a nurse from Bellevue Hospital in New York, spent all of her time with them after they began to spend the winters in Southern Pines, making the trips back and forth from Maine to North Carolina and devoting herself to their care and comfort.

Mr. Richardson was five feet, seven inches in height and usually weighed about 112 pounds. The most he ever weighed was 125 pounds. He had blue eyes, brown hair and wore a full beard. He had a calm, pleasant manner but was not given overmuch to conversation. He rarely took the initiative in making plans for the family and just as rarely offered any objection to such plans as were made. Plans for outings, plans for having guests, plans for the children's education were for the

most part devised by Mrs. Richardson; and, as the children grew older, by joint consultations. However, there was one exception: in planning work for the boys to do about the place, he was very definite in his ideas, rather too definite for the comfort of the boys.

One of Mr. Richardson's most prominent characteristics was his stable nervous system. He seemed never to worry, rarely showed emotion and bore pain and suffering with little or no complaint. For most of his life he suffered greatly from asthma. The attacks, during which he had great difficulty in breathing, occurred at night. He got relief by burning and inhaling the smoke from a powder which he kept on a plate by his bedside. When the attack was over, he seemed to have no difficulty in sleeping and got up the next morning as if nothing had happened. This routine sometimes went on for weeks or months.

During his retirement he spent much time reading. His sight continued good, although his glasses were selected from one of the baskets filled with glasses that some stores keep on the counter. The glasses which he used for many years were a pair of very small nose glasses with steel rims with which he had fitted himself from one of these baskets.

Mr. Richardson was a member of the First Baptist Church of Jefferson, of which he was a deacon for many years. At one time he made a practice of giving one tenth of his income for religious purposes. He was very generous in the financial help which he gave to his children in enabling them to get an education and in helping them to start business.

Mr. and Mrs. Richardson had four children: Charles Albert Richardson, born December 17, 1875; Mary Emilie Richardson, born July 17, 1877; Samuel Bond Richardson, born September 24, 1880; and Frank

Cummings Richardson, born July 6, 1886.

138, 142, 149, 152, 156, 163, 186, 193, 196

STEVENS, THE REVEREND L. C. was at one time pastor of the First Baptist Church in Jefferson, Maine. Albert Richardson said of him: "L. C. Stevens was our third pastor. He commenced his labors with us in March, 1846. He was a very instructive preacher and remarkable as a disciplinarian. He served as pastor six years."

101, 102, 121, 122

WEEKS, ERASTUS FOOTE (brother-in-law, b. June 7, 1820: d. Oct. 31, 1883) was born in Jefferson, Maine, married Jennet G. Richardson May 26, 1846. After their marriage, they went to live with Mr. and Mrs. Justus Richardson, Mrs. Weeks' father and mother, who still lived in the old home on the Mountain. Mr. Weeks operated the farm on shares but did not find it profitable. In fact, Mr. and Mrs. Weeks' idea in going to live with the old people was to help them because they were failing in health and were not able to do the work on the farm.

About 1855 Mr. Weeks began to assist his brother-in-law, S. W. Jackson, in his store; and, when Mr. and Mrs. Jackson moved to Waldoboro, he bought the store and house near it. This was the house in which the tragic deaths of the Richardson and Jackson children had taken place in 1850.

When Mr. and Mrs. Justus Richardson were no longer able to live alone, they went to live at the Weeks house and spent the last few years of their lives there. Laura Heyer, Mr. Weeks' niece, when left an orphan, also became a member of the family and remained so until her death.

Throughout his adult life, Mr. Weeks was a mem-

ber of the First Baptist Church and was much interested in all affairs of the church, being superintendent of the Sunday school for many years. The teachings of his religion were manifest in his daily life. His honesty and fairness in business, his kindness to relatives, whom he took in to his own family, and his unflagging support of the church show, as words cannot, the worth of his character.

He was about five feet, eight inches tall and weighed 170 pounds. He wore a short beard trimmed straight across the bottom giving his face a square, roguish expression.

Mr. and Mrs. Weeks had two children, Adelaide and Gilmore. Adelaide never married. She taught school in Brooklyn, New York, and later conducted the store in Jefferson after her father's death. Gilmore married Mary Besse. He died of pulmonary tuberculosis at 27 years of age.

43, 47, 53, 54, 56, 57, 59, 70, 91, 97, 99, 100, 103, 113, 123, 125, 131, 137, 139, 141, 147, 148, 150, 157, 167, 183, 184

WEEKS, JENNET, née Richardson (sister, b. July 11, 1819: d. Feb. 24, 1892) was born in Jefferson, Maine, and spent her whole life there, rarely being away from home even for a short visit. She married Erastus Foote Weeks May 26, 1846. Further details of their married life can be found in the sketch of Erastus Foote Weeks.

Although having little formal education, she was by nature a lady. Picture her in her later years as a very clean, very fat old lady, impeccable in her manners and while gracious in her treatment of others, conveying the impression that she expected equally correct manners in return.

She is the only one of the brothers and sisters of Albert Richardson from whom no letter appears in the collection.

RICHARDSON LETTERS

LETTERS WRITTEN TO MR. ALBERT RICHARDSON

1832—1881

1

Mr. Albert Richardson
Jefferson, Me.

Jefferson, Me.
August 1, 1832

Mr. Geo. Weeks & A. Richardson present their
Complements & request that you with your sisters
would accept an invitation to a sailing party the 15
inst; be at Capt. Haskells Hotell at nine of the Clock
in the fore noon it being the place where we intend to
meet; also forward an invitation to Miss Lucy Easton
by Our request.

Yours etc.

A. Richardson*

N.B. please keep this an inviolable secret; & forward
an answer.

2

Mr. Albert Richardson
Jefferson, Me.
Gentleman Sir:

Jefferson, Me.
Jan. 27, 1834

I received your compliment this evening an now
take the pleasure in sending an answer, that I accept

* Abiathar Richardson, born 1809, son of Ezra Richardson (see
biographical sketch). Five Abiathar Richardsons are mentioned
in this book: Abiathar Richardson (b. 1722, Woburn, Mass.); his
son, Abiathar Richardson (b. 1751, Woburn, Mass.: d. 1806, Jeffer-
son, Me.); his son, Abiathar Richardson (b. 1780, Jefferson, Me.:

of your complement and shall be very pleased to go and ride with you if nothing happens.

I remain truly yours E. J. Jan. 27, 1834

E. Jackson

I do not expect to attend school tomorrow on account of the goin being how it is.

3

Mr. Albert Richardson
Jefferson, Me.
Brother Albert

Old Town, Me.
June 21, 1834

I received your Letter of The 1st Inst and was pleased to hear of the health of our friends except cousin Harriet — hope she will be better soon.

You next reflect on the changes of this life. Albert, I have lived to find the fond hopes of youth could not be realized; nay, the reality is not what I anticipated. When I was of your age at home, all the care I had was to point a pleasant path for life — I did not dream of being separated from the circle of my friends so soon & to meet some no more on this mortal shore — But that day has come and with it the cares of business — a separation from my home but I hope not a separation from the kind feelings of my father & Mother, my Brothers & Sisters — and I hope I may so conduct myself through this short life as to be an honour rather than a disgrace to the relatives whom I am proud to call mine.

You have been to the Academy. Well, you cannot strive too hard to obtain an education — try the grammar hard: 'tis indispensable. Look well to Orthography.

d. 1845, Appleton, Me.); his son, Abiathar S. Richardson (b. 1829, Appleton, Me.: d. 1861, San Francisco, Cal.); and Abiathar Richardson (b. 1809, Jefferson, Me.: d. Buffalo Grove, Iowa), son of Ezra Richardson.

I see you make some mistakes in this but you are young & application will cure you. You never will regret the time spent in study. On the contrary you will lament the time you might have used in study to profit — I want you to form this resolution which I am trying to perform — Viz. Take every leisure moment & employ it in your Grammar, don't be affraid to ask any one for Information for fear of exposing yourself; this is a Killing course — I have suffered by it, but have thrown it aside.

A Gentlemen asked one of the most eminent men of Urope how he obtained such a fund of Knowledge and general information: He answered "By never being ashamed to ask Knowledge on any subject I do not fully understand" This resolution need not interfere with one hour of your work — dont Sing too much. That is a minor accomplishment.

Be obedient to parents in every particular try to relieve their cares & burdens in every respect as much as in you lies. This is your reasonable duty. They expect it from you and it gives them pain when you are not prompt and you know it—not—

This I can see now but I did not when I used to be with you and I frequently am pained when I reflect how much more obedient I ought to have been, how much more kind and dutiful, and the reflection is more severe as I think of it and grow older — You ask me how I can see better now. I answer, a commerce with the world. I now discourse with men. I Know their feelings they tell me how hard it is to have unkindly sons—all these things you may see if you live to arrive to the estate of manhood —

A word or two of My concerns — Sunday June 22
1834

I have been to Meeting twice to day. Dr. Kennedy has gone to Boston — Hard times — My leg is better — Health good — Weight 170 — Respect to Father, Mother, Lorinda, James, Jennet & Asa — and all friends — Write Particularly of Abiathar's affair.

H. Richardson*

4

Mr. Albert Richardson
Jefferson, Me.
Brother Albert

Old Town
Jany. 17 1837

Sometime Since I said in a letter to Lorinda I should write you a letter & in it give you some advice. Also say some few words respecting business, as you are just commencing trade.

You will, I know, take some heed to it as what I shall Say I have gathered from an experience of something more than five years.

In the first place I suppose you bo't your goods on credit. This being the case the time to pay for them will soon come & if you do not have the money in some shape your creditors will be uneasy. Therefore as the only safe way hold on to your goods till you get pay for them in something, If I were to commence business again I would not sell goods on credit at any rate. I would have my pay in some way. Then I could calculate with some certainty how I can pay. If you have bills against customers that are good for the payment of them, when the time comes for you to make your payments you will find it hard to collect & too if you sell your goods on credit the best of them will soon be

* Henry Richardson, age 24.

gone, or at least the most suitable, then when a person wants who would pay, Why, they are sold on credit, therefore you loose perhaps that mans custom, which you might have had if you had not sold your goods on credit. Thus you tax yourself with two vexations, once because you have sold your goods without pay & another because if you have them you might get pay for them now. I do not recollect that I have ever been sorry that I said "No", in business. You may set it down as certain that you will be better liked as a trader if you insist on having your pay as you go along, & in fact it is better for all concerned. Keep your books and bills always ready for examination & settlement. I suppose you take lumber & it is necessary to have accounts. Settle often, even with your best friend. I would say more but it is getting late & I have some other things to write you respecting family &c.

I received Lorinda's letter today, was glad to hear from home. We do expect Father & Mother to see us this winter & they will disappoint us much if they do not come. The distance is nothing, Mother can stand it well. You try to get them started. Will You? We have as good sleighing in this region as can be. The great snow that you had was, (the latter part of it) rain here. From Belfast to this place the sleighing could not be better. The cars have run I believe every day since they commenced & now go regularly. I have been down in them several times. They make things look lively in this place.

Our little Mary Ann grows finely. She has been unwell today — is better this evening.

Lucy is well & wants to see you and all the friends in Jefferson — We should be much pleased to see any

of you here — Lucy wants to see mother I believe as much as I do. You will write forthwith & oblige.

½ past 10 Eve

Yours

H. Richardson

Direct to Old Town need not put on Orono

5

Mr. Albert Richardson
Jefferson

Jefferson, Me.
Sept. 15, 1837

Dr. A. W. Kennedy* just called on me and wished if I had an opportunity to send you Folks word that himself & lady & Dr. Grey & lady would be at yr fathers and take tea this afternoon — So I send word to you and let you do it if you have an Opportunity

Yrs. etc. S. W. Jackson

6

Mr. Albert Richardson
Jefferson, Me.

Jefferson, Me.
May 29th, 1838

Mr. Albert,

My Sisters desire you to call for Miss M. A. Bond to spend the afternoon with them Thursday. I may have a call to be from home a part of that day if I do I will meet you at my fathers by 4 O,Clock. Miss Lorinda will please accompany you if I do not call before you leave.

Very Respectfully Yrs. Sam W. Jackson

Note: Samuel W. Jackson married Lorinda Richardson December 24, 1839. Albert Richardson married "Miss M. A. Bond" June 13, 1843.

* See sketch of Eliza Ann Richardson. Dr. Kennedy and Dr. Gray's wife, who was before her marriage Elizabeth Kennedy, were brother and sister. Their mother Polly Kennedy, nee Bond, and Jennet Richardson, nee Bond, Albert Richardson's mother, were sisters.

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson, Me.

Augusta March 13" 1838

Dr Brother

I wrote to you some time since by Dr. Kennedy in answer to your letter asking if I knew of any place for business but I did not go to Jefferson & your letter was bro't back to me. I have been here a week & should have written you before but I hoped to have a chance to go to J. As I cannot, I write.

I do not know of any chance in the eastern section of the state at present that I could recommend for a young man who wishes to enter business. Times are abominable in our region but if any chance does offer I will write you —

I expect to leave for home tomorrow —

I want you to collect all the information respecting the making of Sugar Boxes of Jos Weeks you can & inform Richardson & Kennedy by mail at Old Town as soon as possible.

I wish to get all the information you can from Mr. Weeks or any other person & write me immediately — ask him why he does not make boxes now? If on the whole he found it unprofitable

We think if we can do anything at the business we shall make some

You will see the importance of our having the best information we can get & owing to the advancement of the season the earliest — Jennet & wife & babe were all as usual when I left

My respects to you all

H. Richardson

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson, Me.

Bangor Oct. 13, 1838

Brother I have an opportunity to write you I am in Bangor to day have ben here since tuesday week except sunday last I went to Old Town Henry hase ben here several times he left last eve in the cars his family well I am to work makeing boxes with Amon Lewis on the Kendokery about half mile above the lore bridg on mill strett we board I would have sed. we board at Mrs Parkers verry good place to live if it wont fore the children Mr Pendelton Boards with us he puts me in mind of Cousin David is verry good company I am in his mill now he finds me ink & pen he has just come from the house I hade him locked out we hade for dinner beens and plum pooding verry good I got P to help me get A raf of boards up to the mill this four noon it looks like reign to day we have hade some rain last week the water hase been verry low here Henry talks of going to Boston soon the affair with Lovjoy & the bank is not yet settled Mr Hesty is cheaf manigor in the store now the Son is clerk. about lumbering it looks dark yet Lucy exspects two of her sisters to make her avisit soon I wont you to write all the noos you hear I am well and contented when I have enough to do

Remember me to Parents L J & A

Yours J Y Richardson

Mr. Albert Richardson

Lincoln, Me.

Jefferson, Me.

Jan the 12 1839

Bro I have an opertunity to write you I am well & enough to do I herd from home by Henry last week

he wrote that Grandfarther* was ded the rest of the folks well I exspect him in here by the last of this month I should like to have you write me so that he could fetch it in with him rite all the noos & every thing that you think I would like to hear we left Old Town 5the Dec hade hard travling reached here by 10th we have all our hay & supplyes here have halled one hundred & seventy five thousand I know nothing more of interest

I often think of home before I measure the distent few weeks since I was at home with my friends now am about 200 miles from home I should like to be at home to night with the family around the herth but that cant be so I must make the best of it camping out you know is new buisnes to me I like it well we have a very good camp & good crew there is two young men riting home to their wives they feel home sick I think the rest of the family are snoreing Jones is well I feel in hops that we shall pay our bills our teem is smarte and rugged the way we put in the lumber is the rite way my teem halled thirty logs to day the other twenty eight we have just got well under way rite me as I directed

Yours J Y Richardson

10

Mr. Albert Richardson
Warren Maine

Jefferson, Me.
March 29 1839

Dear Brother

I availe myselfe of the present opportunity to write to an absent Brother Absent in person but not in mind since you left home I have spent many lonesome hours, but flatter myselfe the weeks and hours will appear shorter when you return than they now do

* Henry Bond, d. Dec. 10, 1838.

think for a few moments the pleasant years we spent when our Dear Sister was with us where are they now they are past only to be recalled in the memory — When She was liveing Spring was delightful and Summer pass'd pleasantly away but She is gone gone to A Just God why should we murmur She has only paid the debt that we must all pay sooner or later prepared or not

Sunday Rev Blanchard preached a verry interresting temperance Sermon (it could not be called by anny other name) in the afternoon I can assure you it was sentimental and liked by all those that heard it Mr Chapman left the meeting soon after it began — We are all well. I have not time or I should fill the sheet full write soon and full dont delay nor disappoint me for I shall expect one in one or two weeks delays are dangerous and disappointments fatal sometimes write how you get along with your Studies and what you are following give my respects to Cousin Ri* write and by so doing you will oblige youre Affectionate Sister Lorinda

11

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson, Me.

Old Town 11 May 1839

Dr Brother

We received your letter & intended to send the cash to take up Horace Jones note. We shall send it as soon as we can get it & if it does not come in by the 15th Tell Father he must borrow it for a few days & we will send it — He must put off Fish if it is possible till another year.

We have not sold any of our lumber yet & cannot

* One of the Kennedy cousins.

at present which makes money matters go hard — we have paid out this Spring already 3000\$ — Lumber is dull, extremely so, but it must rise again I think soon we have a prospect of selling a raft & we will send you the money — We are all well, Lucy is better than she was in the Spring Sarah her sister came home with her which makes her work less —

It is a little Singular that you do not write occasionally & let us know how you get along with your vessel & all the particulars of Old Jefferson.

I have been so busy this season I have had hardly time to write a friendly letter. Our logs stopping behind has made it necessary for us to stir all our energies. What we have back we consider worth 5000\$. Take this from our business & think if we do not have hard times. You did not mention whether father received 130\$ we sent in a letter to pay for the Cooper oxen, but we presume it was received or you would have mentioned it Write soon — Respect to friends — In haste
yours

H. Richardson

Soon as you recieve this let father know because if we tho't he could not borrow the money for a few days without much trouble we would make it up if it cost us twice the sum —

12

Mr. Albert Richardson
Merchant
Jefferson
Dear Sir

Damariscotta
April 4, 1840

The ice has broken up in the bay and left your Schooner a float, agreeable to your request I bought of M. Myrick on your account 28h of cordage, and have

caused the Schooner to be hauled a longside of the Wharf — She lays well but is liable to be mooved every day as there is gondolaing of wood from the same wharf. If you do not think of taking her below the bridge I would recommend you to have her moored in the bay. If you are desirous of selling her now is your time perhaps you had better come down your-self & make such arrangments as you think best.

Respectfully yours

Cushing Bryant

Note: See information concerning schooner "Coral" in sketch of Justus Richardson.

13

Mr Albert Richardson

Jefferson, Me.

Damariscotta Mills Aug 6 1840

Dear Sir

Capt. Miller has returned from Boston with your Schooner and does not wish to go in her again as She carries but little and is so crank that he Sais he will have to half load her with ballast to make her stand up. I wish you would come down this afternoon or tomorrow morning to make Some arrangements about what is best to do with her. Capt. Miller Sais if we can get a load for her he will go Boston or some other place with her and try and sell her, which I think is the best thing you can do. If you will come down I will give you my views further about it

Respectfully yrs

Josiah Myrick

P. S. Capt. Miller will be here tomorrow.

14

Mr. Albert Richardson
 Care of Messrs. Boston
 Means & Clark Mass
 By Mr. Bixley
 Friend Albert

Jefferson, Me.
 Aug. 20, 1840

I wish you to make inquiry of Fairbanks Lounge Co. if a Capt Mears paid them \$51.50 for me and if so if they endorsed it on note of 1838 or if the note is paid you may bring it home, No news to write — This I send by Mr. Bixley — There is a report in circulation that you have Sold your Sch—

Respectfully Yours

Sam W. Jackson

15

Mr. Albert Richardson
 Jefferson, Me.
 Dr Sir —

Boston 26 Oct 1840

Yours of 16th inst is at hand — We have not been able to sell the Scho — Coral — Nor do we think there is any chance — but one person applied & he look'd & was not satisfied none other since you left — fishing vessells have done so bad — that there are plenty for sale & no buyers — We think you have taken the best course as the Coral draws a light 8 ft of water & that class — have done well about Mobile in the winter — We will do what we can in getting some business for her to M or vicinity — hope you have a good honest master — and acquainted with trade about Mobile Bay as much depends on that — we do not think there is any chance to sell this fall

Yr obe Servants

Means & Clark

16

Albert Richardson Esq

Jefferson, Me.

Damariscotta Mills Oct 31/40

Dr Sir

The note you gave me payable in Wood Bark &c is misplaced, therefore I would be extremely obliged if you would give me another, for I am about leaving. Please let me hear from you immediately.

Yours Respectfully

Jno B. Williams

17

Thomaston Nov the 16 1840

Mr Albert Richardson Sir tell your father to be redy by Thirsday my vessel will be redy i have engaged our passage i am redy for them to be hear i am sorry i could not of wrote before but they have time to be here and redy the vessel will be redy by friday Saturday

Yours with Respect

Wm Robinson

18

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson, Me.

Boston, Mass.

Sunda Dec 13 - 1840

My Dear Albert I take this oppertunity to in forme you and the family that we are well and arrived in Boston after thirteen Days from Thomastown we are a bord the independance Cap Asa C Fuller commander sailed the same Day we left sunday about noon maid wood island harbor and laid thar ten Days and after that sailed and maid Cape parpes and staid two Days thar and after got hear tooke the Boat and Cut of five feet of the mast sailes an riggen and put him in order

for the sea which Cost about 50 Dollars time and munne
tomorro Commence taking in a Cargo for st marks

Asa take good care of the cattel hors and sheep and
goe to school all the time that it keeps take no hay of
the east caffel for the Cattel sel that on the east caffel
let Latan have half a ton of hay let him have 8 or 10
ten bushels of Corn after receiven this write to Appola-
chacolla for tharr is no mail to St marks

Frida December 18 1840

Dear wife I hope thefew lines will find you well
and all in quiren friends wee expect to sail tomore
after non for St marks and hope to arrive thare in
twelve or fifteen Days after we sail we have a small
frait for that place and have more to take in to moro
then Clear out and Commit our Selves to the wind and
the weather knowen that we have one to relion that
is able to carry us thare saif and abel to return us home
to our familes in safty say to our friends pray for us
say to Albert sine five Dollars for me to Elder Chesam
remember Cattel this Cold winter

I did not write be four becouse that Albert tolde
me not to all our famely are well this nite it is cold no
snow hear till last wensday nite then fell 2 or 3 inches
this from your Justus Richardson

19

Mr. Albert Richardson
Jefferson, Me.

St. Mark (Florida)
february 7, 1841

My Dear wife and family I have a rived at this
place this after noon after a long pasage of forty four
Day all of the farmurly are well but we met with head
winds Camb and trouble but one half of our trouble is
not toled we went a shore on tertogus reefe and laide
thair about 12 or 15 ours and then taking off by the

rekkers and had to pay Dear for that but hope to sell the Bote one man wants to by after we go to Nu allends* and if I can make sail I shall return home as soon as I can for we are goin to Nu-allends soon as we can git red of our cargo now I am Determan to sell as soon as we git thair if any chans offrs and this man is agoin thar with us and Mr Babb a pasinger from Boston sais he is able to By for he is well a quainted with this man

Mr. Babb went a shore to Day and when he returned he told me that he saw 2 men on shore that wanted to By a vessel and woud come tomorrow and se the Boat and if we could agree tha would By W Pilgram is the man that wants to by when we git at Nu allends and he told Daniel that he wood give 1500 hundred Dollars and pay all Dun but I hope to git mour I wood write more but time and paper failes I will write as sun as I git to Nu allends

Justus Richardson

Note: Postmarked Port Leo

20

Mr Albert Richardson

Damariscotta Mills

Jefferson, Me.

May 19th 1841

Dear Sir

I yesterday went to Thomaston to see Capt Proctor and the Schooner Coral, and saw them both The Schooner is in bad order and shall have to bring her a round to this River to have her fited up. I a greed with Capt. Proctor to help bring her a round if you or your father will go down and assist. Capt P. sais there is nothing for her to do in Thomaston except to buy a Cargo of Lime and send it to some market which is uncertain business and I am unwilling to embark in it.

* New Orleans

When she gets around here if you will come down I will see and talk with you a bout my claim on her and what I will do a bout it. I will get some good man to go from here with you or your father to help bring her a round one that will be a pilot up this River as soon as you receive this I wish to know what day you or your father will go and I will have a man ready to go with him or if you do not come this day send me word what day you will be their and I will have her here as soon as possible as she is at the expence of wharfage every day she lays where she is. I Should prefer to have your father go, so as to settle with Capt Proctor and know what his Bill is against her.

Respectfully yours

Josiah Myrick

21

Mr. Albert Richardson
Jefferson, Me.

Wisconsin Territory
May 23 1841

Respected Cousin

With great pleasure I have now an oportunity of writing to you — you have almost dispaired of receiving a line from me according to promise — but depend upon it I have not forgotten you although a year has almost elapsed since I saw you you have been anxious to learn what I was doeing where I was &c — I will now begin —

I left J- in Apr took Steam to Boston in 2 days Rail Road to Stoneington Steam to N. York City — Steam to Albany — Rail Road to Schenectady. Erie Canal to Buffalo — Steam through Lake Erie St. Clair Huron and Michigan to Chicaugo. thence by land over praries

to Sephenson on the Mississippi River — where I became acquainted with some gentlemen wishing to enter into the Lumbering business with them, I went into the Pine country in the County of Crawford Ter of Wisconsin on the Au Gallet River which running 12 miles empties into the Chipaway, thence, 90 miles to the Falls of St. Anthony and here I have been since the 4th of June last — I entered into Company (for the purpose of building Sawmills and Lumbering) with Thos A Savage a very fine young man from the State of Virginia and Geo. E. Boswell a Gentleman from Missouri and Geo C Wales then living on and claiming the Mill Site which we now occupy, we commenced business on the 4th of June and have since made some 350 thousand Shingle which brings us from \$3.50 to 6.00 per (M) made some 4000 feet square pine timber got out a frame and framed it for a double saw mill. cleared out the River so as to run small cribs of Timber, own 4 yoke oxen. We have Claimed three square miles of the best pine in the Territory which is held sacred as though it was deeded until Government brings it into market by Proclamation, which will not be probably until ten or more years; at which time it will be one dollar and twenty five cents per Acre Government price situated six miles above our Mill —

Last March we took in another partner Horatio Dix a first rate business man and Mill Wright from the State of New York, well experienced in building and running Mills — This is what we have done (now for our prospects) Our Mill is situated so that we can raft and run Lumber from the piling place — will be ready for sawing in about six or eight weeks will cut at the lowest estimate two millions feet in a year and if well drove winter and Summer probably three millions,

boards are worth from \$17.50 to 25\$ any where on the Mississippi and sometimes they bring \$60 — we can run as many boards (after going 25 miles) in a raft as we please — we shall employ eight men sawing and as many more on the River we have made a contract to be furnished with 20,000 Logs in Two years measuring 250 ft per Log at 37½ cts each.

Three of us intend to buy out one of the partners and turn out the other for not fullfiling his Obligations. Our business is estimated with one Mill to be worth to each partner \$5000. This estimate is mad by men well acquainted with the Country & business we intend the next Summer to put in one or two more double mills on the same dam and go ahead The Land here is first-rate here for Farming or Grazing Cattle will keep fat the year round on Rushes which grow spontaineously in the Bottoms all kinds of vegetables corn wheat &c come bountifully without even puting on a particle of dressing

The Climate is Healthy, the settlers are principally eastern people, some with us from Maine. James Young is here with us commences work for us tomorrow is well with his pockets full of money — nothing more now. I have heard by James Y how things went on after I left and am sorry but not much surprised. I hope that you will endeavor to have my affairs settled up by fall if they are not now. pay my debts Albert out of my property if it takes the last cent — keep every thing in order and you shall be satisfied when I come to J — Tell all inquires that I am well and contented that I want to see evriboddy and mean to soon: that all things shall be made right when I come back. I want to write ten times as much but I must curtail

on account of room. Write on recpt of this tell me how they all get along be particular Remember me to Uncle & Aunt particularly

Times are hard
in the west man

Father & Mother certainly
Brothers & Sisters
Cousins & Relatives
Friends Without — reserve

Address your Letters to Prarie Du Chine Wisconsin
Ter to the care of Thomas A Savage

Note: This letter is from Abiathar Richardson (b. 1809), son of Ezra Richardson.

22

Mr. Albert Richardson
Jefferson, Me.

Old Town
Sunday May 30, 1841

Brother Albert

I received your letter of the 18 inst in which you detailed the cruise of the Coral & her misfortunes & requested me to write as soon as I heard from James. Friday noon, last James arrived and bro't all the boys to the boom. He has been well during his route. We expect to saw them this summer unless we find a chance in 4 or 5 days to sell —

Dr Kennedys little Willis died (I think) on Tuesday morning 2 weeks since & was buried Wednesday.

Shall expect father & mother to visit us this summer & must insist on their coming this month. Start them off. Will you?

It is no use to be discouraged with what you suppose to be your loss in the vessell. I would sell her if I could get a chance & wind her up & you will feel better about it than to run her even if you do make a loss on sale. She is too small to be of much profit as a carrier & will be likely to do a small business in pro-

portion to her tonage. I say again you cannot mend the matter by giving up to the loss. The only way I know of is to put on an iron countenance & look adversity of this kind full in the face & I assure you he will yield altho' he may look like a mountain. I know by experience, I have seen the time when I had not far from 10,000\$ of paper hanging over my head which I never received a farthing for only to assist my friends & it did come & in such a shape as made me look round & for a while I felt discouraged, but after looking at the whole matter, I made this resolve

Resolved. That the past we cannot recall, therefore to mourn over it is spending time uselessly & will not help me out of difficulty: that I will meet difficulties full in the face & continue with them manfully & back them as best I can.

I have acted on this as near as I could & considering all I had to contend with have sunk considerable of a mass & will one day if I have my health & prosperity wind them all up but how I dont know exactly. I have paid 700\$ for endorsing already but notwithstanding all this & more my courage is No I — If you can sell the Schr— — you can have time to breath.

Write soon and tell Samuel to write.

H. Richardson

23

Mr. Albert Richardson
Jefferson, Me.

Bangor Sept 23" 1842

Bro Albert

I wrote you by Edw Weeks I hope you have received my letter so as to be ready to come to our place soon and commence a school*. We shall get up a

* Evening singing school.

good smart school of about 75 scholars say about 40 males.

I suppose you will come in the boat. She comes past Thomaston on Wednesdays and Saturdays. If you come in the Boat you had better be at Thomaston at 11 o'clock A.M. on those days.

They will use the Boston Collection, and you had better bring with you the Boston Academy as they will want to use that work some, probably.

I think we should not get up a school in Millford. Perhaps, however, we may hereafter.

My family is well save bad colds.

Dr. Kennedys wife is getting better fast.

Give my respects to the family and say we are disappointed because father & mother did not visit us this fall

In great haste as I have as much business as I can do today in this city.

H. Richardson

24

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson

Old Town June 8, 1843

Brother Albert,

Your letter I received and also James received — Myself and family would be happy to attend your Wedding, but the notice is so short and our little boy so unwell & being weaned we cannot come. Had it been 3 weeks later we should have tried to be with you.

James said he tho't he should not be able to leave. He has just got down with his lumber and it is coming out of the boom very fast and must be taken care of. I told him he had better try to go & he may have concluded to go I have not seen him for a day or two.

James has all his lumber down. Business is very dead this Spring in this place.

Wm Bond & Jon'an work close by the store and are well.

In haste

H. Richardson

25

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson, Me.

Old Town Aug 23 - 1843

Dear Sir

Upon the receipt of your letter of the 9th Inst. I commenced getting Subscribers for a Singing Scholl in this village. last evening we had quite a full meeting on the Subject and I was instructed to inform you that it was the wish of all present that you Should be employed as their instructor.

The time set for the School to commence is Saturday evening Sept 2".

I have seen several gentlemen from Milford, and it is their intention to employ you to keep a school in that village also.

Yours truly

Moses Haskell

26

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson, Me.

Wat. College June 17, 1849 "

Bro. Albert:

Have not heard a word from Jefferson since I left home — Why do you not write me. I have gone to the P.O. for letters from home till I am completely discouraged — Think some of you might write — Can I not have a letter?

O! could I learn indifference
 From all I hear and see:
 Nor think nor care for others, more
 Than they may care for me!!

Have just come from the afternoon meeting. Yes here I am seated by the open window, occasionally looking out upon the majestic Kennebec — The birds are singing sweetly among the trees close to my window. All nature seems clothed in “immortal beauty,” fair, unrivalled — Yet Bro., I do not enjoy all these scenes — I am not happy today — Why is it? I see no reason why I should be so today more than at any other time — Perhaps I have been thinking more than usual — or rather my thoughts have taken a peculiar turn. I want to see my way clearly at once — O! for more light!!

“More light! more light! to see
 What mystic path I tread,
 What danger hovers o’er
 My heart and head!
 Oh stretch Thy guiding hand
 and lead me through this night;
 Then bathe me in a flood
 Of perfect light—”

Excuse my quotations — I think I shall soon be happy — I wish to hear from James very much. He said in his last to me, that if he thought it best, he would send for me — If he does I shall wish to go; but that will be the end of it — It will not do for me to think too much about gold at present at least, but I do wish I had a lot of it, yes two and a half lots — then would I have some books that I crave.

But stop, the "Bell" is ringing for prayers and I must go, or the door will be closed.

Well now I will finish my letter. Have attended prayers (Prof. Loomis in the chair) have been to town to tea, and had several chats; one with some ladies at our boarding place; and one with my friend Cole, who has just left my room. I say friend because he is one of the few with whom I am intimate, and with whom I can enjoy myself. His soul is noble and I love to converse with him. But here I am striding again. Now I must and will, (for I have a will), stop soon. By the way I am quite happy now — O what a change — But I must stop.

Just say to Samuel W. I want some money — I sent him some. 20\$ I think and he was to let me have as much in June although I owe him a considerable amount. Ten dollars is sufficient at present.

I spoke to you about some black broad cloth. Do you intend to let me have it? If so send it now for my coat has become rather old, yes very very odd looking. I wish for a good piece, for I shall not be able to have another before I graduate; and I should like to look mighty smart then — Four yards and 3 eights for it is to be a frock — I need a vest. Have you any nice black satin? How would that look on the stage?

Let me know all the news — Talk it right off all! all!! Should like to have a letter from Lorinda and Jennet — Tell them they have a brother in Waterville College, who loves them. Remember me to Ann.

Respects to all —

Your Brother,
A. B. Richardson

Mr. Albert Richardson Wat. College Oct 4th 1849
West Jefferson* Me.

Brother Albert:

The great day (evening) which tries students souls has gone, and numbered itself with the things that were. Last evening was our Exhibition, and an exhibition it was indeed. We had taken considerable pains to have our Chapel well fitted up for the occasion & it was well that we did for it was filled to overflowing. Never have I seen the Chapel so completely filled. The evening was pleasant, and it appeared to me that the whole village was there, men, women & children. Certain it is that the ladies turned out in great numbers: — why, I cannot say. Many no doubt came out of curiosity, some because they felt an interest in the success of some member or members of the class. There were 60 of the late senior class present — some of them came 35 miles in order to witness our exhibition. I will enclose an “order of exercises”, thinking it may interest you somewhat. My position in the order, was a very hard one, as I was obliged to speak after two of our best writers, viz. Knowlton & Faviman — It is much easier to speak immediately after the music. The Augusta Band played for us & did themselves honor! Saturday Oct 6.

When I commenced this letter I expected to finish it immediately, but this is the way with us students; we are obliged to write to our friends just when we can — Have been very busy this term in preparing for exhibition & attending to my regular studies &c &c. It is quite exciting times with us just at this time. A few days before exhibition, the Faculty passed a law,

* See note under sketch of Samuel W. Jackson.

that any student, who should be detected in getting up, printing or circulating a "false order", should be expelled, but in direct violation of this law, one was got up, printed and circulated, full of malice, slander and envy. I would send you one of these "false orders", but I have but one at present and I wish to retain that. My subject in this order was, "Disadvantages of Low society to a man of letters" The person referred to in this order is Miss Helena Low, one of the best young Ladies in Waterville — The joke is much more severe on her than on me, and that is just what vexes me. — One student was expelled yesterday morning for participating in some way, I know not how, in the "false order affair". The student was Isaac Rellogen. Rev Mr. Rellogen's son of Augusta. Others look pale today for they are expecting their "walking papers". Our Boys will have to be more cautious in the future, I think. Some of our classmates were most shamefully treated in the false order.

The joke on me does not amount to much, but I was so vexed Wed Eve. that I think, I must have shown temper, when I went upon the stage. My piece was animated, and I had not the least care about the persons present. How well the people were pleased, I cannot tell, but certain it is I had the attention of the house for it was as still as night.

My health is far from being good this term. Have been so "hard of hearing" for a considerable part of the time that, I could not hear common conversation across the table. What is the cause of it I cannot tell. If you know of any chance where I can make money this coming Winter without going into a school-house, please tell me about it, for if I do not recover any hearing, I cannot teach. Have no school engaged — do you know of any? I wish for some money very much.

Have borrowed some of a friendly student and must repay it in a few days. This I cannot do without some assistance from home. — Must have wood for it is very cold in Waterville — Will you let me have some — or can you not? Please let me know immediately — Write as soon as you receive this.

Respects to all — In great hurry.

Brother

A. B. Richardson

28

Mr. Albert Richardson

Sanfrancisco

West Jefferson Maine

November 6, 1849

Brother Albert

I received yours of Aug 1st last Saturday one from Harriet Aug 20 and one from Henry from Augusta and one from Jennet. You are judge of my feelings when I tell you I had not read anything latter then the first of June. I came here after letters and wated two weeks before I got them. The mail had not arived for three months before it came the last time. I have felt anxious to here from friends before but never knew what it was to wait month after month and no tidings I can asure you my reflections were anything but pleasant but I have herde at last. Harriet* wrote of the birth of a young Son but the same letter told me he had died. You can judge of my feelings better than I can express. I would have been glad to have been at home at the time but could not. So must be resined.

Sanfrancisco is the largest City in North Cal. it is quite a city now is Sed to contain 30 thousand Inhabitence it was but a small place when I came in July compared with now and is destined to be a place of

* His wife.

importance it is situated on the bay of San Francisco it is about 200 miles from the Sothern gold diggers. New Orleans is the nearest U. S. mint but we do not have our gold coined here it goes at 16\$ per oz and traders have scales to weigh it but there is a plenty of coin here brot out for the States to buy the dust. What does it cost per week here. Well I stop at the Maine Hotel kept by a man from Brunswick Me and pay 16\$ week but costs in the mines about 1.50 per day. Some places more than others owing to the distance from Shiping I have paid 1\$ a lb for pork 50cts for Flour That was a long ways of. What did it cost me from Old Town to Cal. well Say to the mines 400\$ but could be cheaper now I should not bring any thing but clothes.

I intend to built a camp this winter to live in dont board out when in the mines. Well we dig the dirt with Pick and Shovel and wash it with rocks I think I have given a description of gold washing in a letter so will let that question go I will give you a description more full when I come home. I like the climate much in Summer There is no rain nor due but winter it rains in earnest I am told. I never had better health than since I came to Cal. You will excuse me for not beeing more partickalar but have written it to Father suppose you will see it.

Henry and Yourself Spak of Asas wishing to come to California or he was in hopes I would write to him so I wrote him a short time ago and wish you to Say to him go on and be a Man get through with his studies first and than thar will be plenty of time. I will be home to come with him by that time or give him directions. The gold wont be all dug out by that time nor for one hundred years if I can dig 1 ounce a day for all winter Shall do as well I exspect. That is a fair average but Some get more I must close by Saying you had

better stay at home I went to church Sunday and herd
a Smart Sermon Write

Respects to all my friends

J. Y. Richardson

Say to Jennet I am not one of the homesick kind.

29

Mr. Albert Richardson
West Jefferson Maine
Brother Albert.

Wat. Col. Nov 7, 1849

In the first place I wish to know if the folks in Jefferson have forgotten that there is such a place as Waterville College? or that there is a person by the name of Asa Bond — If they have — let it be so — but blast their memories — “If others can so soon forget — why may not I the same?” But, no! I will not — cannot forget — although I do feel somewhat neglected —

Shall be with Henry during the Winter, by his request, & he says I can have a singing-school in Old Town — if I behave myself well — How do you think I, a student in College, in my senior year too, shall look in a store, dealing out medicine. I can tell you what I think about it. I am right glad of the opportunity as I shall not now be obliged to instruct a town school — Do you think I had better attempt to instruct a singing-school? Have an idea of trying my luck as the saying is.

Suppose it is not “worth the while” to visit Jefferson as my former friends appear to have forgotten me. Just tell them I have one friend that does not forget. Was very much obliged to SWJ* for the money sent me — Tell him I will pay him good interest when I

* Samuel W. Jackson.

come from California. Sent a letter to James a few days ago by a gentleman of this village who was going to San Francisco — Told James to make ready for me as I intended to visit the gold region soon. Remember me to my dear Parents. Shall write them before long. My health is very good at the present too. Have recovered in a great measure from my deafness.

Excuse my haste — Give my respects to all. May the perpetual smiles of heaven be yours —

Asa Bond —
soon a gold Hunter

30

Mr. Albert Richardson
West Jefferson, Maine
Brother Albert:

Old Town,
Saturday Nov. 24, 1849

By this date you will see that I have left Old Waterville for a time at least — for examinations came off last Saturday, & I left for this place Wednesday at 11 o'clock A. M. after having spent 3 of the happiest days of my life — that is the three immediately following our examination. You may be very much surprised to hear me speak in this manner, but I can assure you that Waterville is not without its charms* for me — both in College and out — and especially the last just at the present time.

On my way to this place, I stopped one night at Bangor, & called in the morning on "Sis" Harriet & spent most of the day, Thursday, with her. She is well & Willis is in perfect health I should think from his looks. He is a very interesting child. Called me, Papa, & would have it so although told that he was laboring

* Miss Annie Foster, whom he later married, sister of Prof. John Foster.

under a mistake — Harriet thinks since James's last letter, that he will be at home sometime during the Winter. If he comes home & goes out again in the Spring, I intend to go with him.

I arrived here Thursday 4 o'clock P.M. — found Henry full of business — Salome much better than she was when I left her in Sept, last. She looks very well now & appears happy — Ann & Abbot well — Went into the store Friday morning & worked hard all day appraising goods, cleaning up &c &c. Have been behind the counter — was there this day — We took \$51.00 for goods yesterday & have taken over \$63.00 today. Well this will do quite well, but O! my legs! how they ache!! Henry has a very large stock of goods & they are still coming.

It is time to close the store. Give my respects to all — Shall write to my dear parents very soon.

May the choicest blessing of Heaven rest upon you
& yours

Your Brother

A. B. Richardson

31

Mr. Albert Richardson
West Jefferson, Me.

Old Town Dec. 31, 1849

Bro. Albert:-

John Y. Davis arrived in this village last Eve. from California direct, having left there on the 15th of last month. He brought letters for Henry, Harriet, Rose, "Asa Bond" & yourself which you will please find enclosed. Henry's letter had over $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of Gold. Harriet's letter is also a rich one. In my letter he says, I had better remain in Maine till I finish my studies, then he shall be at home & will tell me what I shall want for my journey, & if successful, will furnish

funds &c. He says: "Tell Father and Mother I will be a good boy, & wishes to be remembered to all. Told me to "kiss" Lorinda & Jennet. Please pass them, the kisses, along, & one to each of them from me also.

Business has been very good since I came to Old Town. Never better this season of the year. My health is very good & I like my present business well. Do not know how long I shall remain. I wish to know all about Father & Mother! Will you not write?

Best respects to All.

Asa Bond (Richardson)

32

Mr. Albert Richardson
West Jefferson, Maine

Macalama (California)
Feb. 10, 1850

Dear Bro Yours of 25 Sept, 1849 came to me about 3 weeks ago in compeny with Several others of various dates I was pleased, to hear of the good health of all my Friends, in Maine. You wish to know my opinion about furnishing S Powers & Co. Since I reed yours have reede one from Jennet of 14 Nov. She tells me Powers was to start first December furnished by Jackson, Richardson, Geo Weeks & H. K. Bond so my advise would come to late as he is now on his way to California, but to give you my opinion think he will no doubt in two years get enough to pay up if he has health I will further say that I will drop him a letter at San Francisco to let him know where he can find me (that is if he choses to he can come where I am) and I will render him all the asistence I can. You ask questions had you better come &c. first ask yourself for you know nothing about leaving your fanily, and I doubt if you could, if you should think and even get reddy to start I guess you would think beter of it when

you come to say good by to those you love. Secondly ask your wife thirdly be sure to ask your Mother for the thought of my leaving without her approval brings tears to my eyes now but I have asked her forgiveness and hope she has forgiven me though she has not said so how would it effect your health? I think the summer would agree with you the air is dry and good and no rain for eight months the winters are rainy and some Snow and frosty nights we have had but one Snow Storm here The Snow was about four inches deep but was gone the next day, but further north and east there is more Snow. We have not had rain for 3 weeks and think the rainy Season is over. I wish I could describe this Sunday morn it is as pleasant as any May morn at home and not a cloud to be seen the birds are singing the robins sing sweetly and hum birds are humming among the flowers it is a pretty day and we shall have lots of them no doubt I think if you was here now you would be well for one day at least. now for my opinion Stay at home I don't know what it would cost to go round Cape Horn when a vessel is up they publish the price of tickets so you can find out better then I can I hear they carry via Isthmus for about three hundred dollars consult the N York paper better teller than I am It cost me about five hundred dollars to San Francisco Take no tools at all can buy any thing at San Francisco cheaper than they could buy them I believe I have answered all your questions. I have been at work with a Quicksilver washers left it because it did not pay am digging in the ravines (deep gulleys) They are dry in Summer but in the rainy season there is water to wash in there then The gold is larger there on the rivers and we have to dig sometimes twenty feet before we come to the ledge and then not get a speck Some times lose a weeks work and

not find any I say any, but there is some gold all over this country but not enough to pay to work now but will pay when the rich places are worked. As for the quantity of gold the more I travel the more I think there is in the country. But it is something like a lottery one lucky one finds it Sometimes find lumps that are worth 3 or 4 hundred dollars, but I have not found any such pieces so dig for the Smaller ones I have about paid expences during the winter but many have not done that we bot 25 lbs Potatoes last week for 4-6 lb verry cheap they have been worth 7-6 Pork 7-6 Beans 4-6 but are getting cheaper now I think I shall leave here soon for Stanishlow or Murypoisy that is south. I shall write Jenet soon Shall write wif & Henry today exspect letters of December dates every day. I have no envelope So must close I am well and have been all winter.

Respects to all

Your Brother

J. Y. Richardson

33

Mr. Albert Richardson

Columbian College

West Jefferson

Washington, D. C. May 13, 1850

Dear Brother and Sister:-

By a letter from Sister Jenett of the 1st. and one from Erastus of the 10th inst., I learn with deep sorrow that you have been called to part with your two dear little Daughters.

“O Death, what art though? the shadow on every substance,

In the bower as in the battle, haunting night and day.”

Before I received Jenett's kind favor, I had concluded that there must be sickness among my

Jefferson friends, as none of them wrote me, — but I was looking in another direction, and thinking not that the young tender buds of hope were withering. I was prepared, in part, to hear sad news, but little expecting it from that quarter. I did not suppose, if the shaft fell, it would be among the lambs of the flock. Your happy home has become a house of mourning, of deep, deep sorrow, but I do not realize it. No I, in imagination see those sweet babes as I last saw them, happy in their innocent sports. And are they gone? Shall I see those smiling faces, and hear their joyous laugh no more? Conviction answers: They are gone — they are gone — Yes, they have left earth and all its sorrows, all its sins. The buds have been transplanted to a soil that is watered by Heavenly dews, that they may blossom in a more genial clime. Guarded by angels, how pure must be the fruit — How gently how sweetly will they sing when they have joined that new song, that song which no man could learn but the hundred and forty-four thousand, which John saw, and of which he has given us an account in Revelations, Chap III. I think the Revelator plainly refers in this Chap. to children who had been taken from this world of sin and sorrow before they had committed any actual transgression. — In the VII, Chap. he speaks of the great multitudes, which no man could number of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, who came out of great tribulation and have washed their robes, and made them white in blood of the Lamb, — but in this Chap. he tells us, there was a company in whose mouths was found no guile: for they were without fault before the throne of God. —

Albert and Anne, I cannot tell from experience what your feelings now are, but I can feel sorrow, can

participate in the grief of others, can weep with those that weep. May the blessing of Heaven rest upon you in your sorrow.

Your Brother, with love

A. B. Richardson

34

Asa B. Richardson
Washington, D. C.

West Jefferson, Me.
May 23, 1850

Dear Brother,

Perhaps you may think it strange because I have not written to you before, yet the reason is obvious.

Since I last wrote you, there has been an entire change in my family; all of my dear little children are gone, yes, gone! I cannot tell you how this word sounds to me while I write. They are gone, dead, sleeping in the silent grave. I hear no more their little stories. I join no more in their little play. I hear their little footsteps no more. All is silent, all is still; Death has done his work on my little ones. From the height of play and ambition they were, as if by a stroke, cut down by the destroyer, Death.

Our house seems not like a house of pleasure and happiness where once we enjoyed all of which this life had to boast, but like a house forsaken of all that makes a house cheerful and to be desired.

Our little children were all that we could reasonably ask for. They were generally well and active and bade fair to make respectable men and women in the world. But alas! alas! they are no more. All is changed; those pleasant countenances, the expression of their eyes, yes, all their little ways rush with tremendous force upon me. So much so that at times it does seem as though I could not stand the shock. But these are my natural feelings.

The world at present seems hollow, gloomy, dark and lonesome. Nowhere can I go but I miss my little children — no little Adelaide to come to the store and tell me that dinner is ready or that Mother wants a little saleratus, tea or something of the kind; or when I have been absent for a day or less, to run and meet me, take hold of my hand and tell me all that has passed throughout the day. No, no, she sleeps in the silent grave; her short and active life is spent. And when I enter the house, I find no little Amanda with sparkling black eyes to cheer my lonely spirits and make life sweet and to be desired. No, no little questions from her. She was in the habit of asking, "Father, did you bring me any candy? Did you bring me a little book?" Then, with all the earnestness of age, she would tell me some interesting little story, or something she had done. And when I am seated in my chair, there is no little Marshall to jump up into my lap and jabber over his little affairs, pat my face, kiss me, brush back my hair and throw his arms around my neck. A thousand such things rush into my mind — then the thought comes back — they are gone. Yes, I am childless. Still it sounds away in the distance — they are gone.

Perhaps I have made you feel unhappy by this time. I will now turn the leaf. My dear children were but favors and I enjoyed them well. I am inclined to think that I have taken as much comfort with my dear little children as one man ought to take. I now feel that it is all right. God has taken only what He gave me. His right is the best and it is becoming in me to submit in silence and say in my mind, "All is well, all is well".

I feel that my little children were taken from a world of trouble and temptation, anxiety, care, per-

plexity and disappointments and transplanted to the fair Garden above, where all is resplendent with the praise of God, where sickness is known no more and suffering not permitted to enter. They now have angels and the just made perfect for their companions; and, what is more glorious, the blessed Savior for their guide and teacher and God for their Father.

This view sweetens the bitter cup and leads me to say "all is well". I submit without a murmur, knowing that God is too wise and too good to be unkind. Since the death of my little ones — speaking after the manner of men — Heaven seems sweeter and more to be desired; for, in addition to all the other attractions of heaven, my little children are there.

Perhaps you would like to know when they were taken, how long they were sick and how old they were. Adelaide was taken sick Saturday, April 20th, 1850 and died Saturday, April 27th — just one short week. She was a great sufferer — language fails me. I cannot describe her suffering. She found relief only in death. She was five years, four months and twelve days old. Amanda was taken sick Friday, April 26th at one o'clock in the morning and died Sunday, April 28th, at half past three in the afternoon — sick only two and a half short days. She made no ado but seemed like some little being who had her work all done and had nothing to do but die. She sweetly fell asleep and all was peace. She was three years, five months and seven days old. Marshall was taken sick April 27th in the afternoon and died May 13th. His sickness was not so severe as the others'; in fact, some of the doctors thought that he would certainly get well. But, alas! our last and only little son fell a victim of the same disease, scarlet fever and throat distemper. He was one year, nine months and twelve days old.

All of my children and Samuel's were swept from us. Atwood, Sam's little boy was sick about twelve days and Henry about ten days; aged, Atwood about fifteen months and Henry about five years. Probably Sam has written you about his children.

I would say that I shall send you a copy of "Zion's Advocate" soon, in which you will see a notice of this sad event.

We are not very well. Other friends, as well as usual.

Please write.

Yours,

A. Richardson

Note. This letter was written ten days after the last of Mr. Richardson's three children had died. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson and Mr. and Mrs. Samuel W. Jackson lived together in the house at the bottom of the hill west of the First Baptist Church. Mrs. Jackson was Mr. Richardson's sister, Lorinda. The Richardsons had three young children and the Jacksons two. All five children died within twenty days. The disease from which they died was diagnosed as scarlet fever, but it is probable that it was a virulent form of diphtheria, with a rash. At this time Mr. Richardson was thirty-five years old.

35

A. Richardson Esqr.

Columbian College

West Jefferson, Me

Washington, D.C. June 10/50

Dear Bro. Albert:-

Yours of the 3rd has been re'd, and I assure you I was very pleased to hear from you although the letter was sad, very sad. You have indeed been called to pass through floods of deep affliction. I most deeply sympathize with you all in your sorrow. When I rec'd Samuel's letter stating that Marshall and Henry were gone also, I wept for the tears would flow. His letter was very short, but one of the most touching I have

ever seen. I had thought that those two would be left, — that every limb would not be severed, — but God in His infinit Wisdom has seen fit that it should be otherwise, and it becomes you, Dear Brother, as a Christian, as a believer in the efficacy of pure religion, to have faith in Him, that you may meet again those lovely Children that have gone before, where parting will be at an end, where sorrow can never come — We must not set our affections on earthly objects however dear they may be, so that we shall forget the life which is to be hereafter, when the soul shall be freed from earth and all its sins. That these five children so lovely and so much beloved, should have been taken away from the same house, and, as it were, from the same family, is a most solemn affliction.

“Untimely gone! forever fled
 The roses of their cheeks so red,
 Their affections warm, their tempers mild,
 With sweetness that made sorrow smile—”

You are indeed the “Children of Affliction”! Do you feel, Bro. as if life now is but to drag out an existence untill all your joys gradually expire, and leave you in a night of misery: like the gloom which blots out the stars one by one, from the face of night, and leaves not a ray of light? I hope you do not — but if you do, remember how much better their situation is now than it would have been on earth with all a father’s care, a mother’s love. “God is our refuge our strength, a very present help in trouble.”

You appear to have a sad time in Jefferson. Sickness and death, sickness and death. All this should teach us that life, at best is but short, that our own dissolution draweth nigh. I sometimes think that life

will be soon closed with me*, and feel too that it hath few blessings. But I cannot believe that the Creator designed that even this world should be all sorrow. No! this would be inconsistent with His benevolence and love. Man is so blinded by evil passions that he does not see — and cannot relish what the God of Nature designed for his good.

I am almost through with my College studies, and in about six weeks shall be leaving Washington. Our commencement will be on the 3rd Wed. of July. As the class was too large for all to have a chance on the stage and as I have been here but a short time, I had thought I should not speak on that occasion. But I learn from the faculty that I am among the 12 speakers, which is just half the class. If my health remains good, think I shall speak, if not I shall decline the offer. I had some thought of returning to Wat. after graduating here, and take a diploma with my old Class, but Henry thinks it would be an unnecessary expense.

I have not heard of any good chance for teaching South. They all tell me the same story, that I must not expect to make much for the first year or two. The whole truth is, the Southerners are too much prejudiced for a Northern man to succeed well. They seem to think every man from the North is against their institution (Slavery) and certainly every Northern man would be if he could see it once in all deformity. The students appear to like me, they say they do at least, and say also they would be pleased to have me go down South with them for they are from the South. What do you think I had better do? Come give me your advice. Tell me just what you think and tell me soon

* Mr. Richardson died at 87 — 58 years later. He left Colby College thinking that the milder climate would benefit his health.

too. You know I am in debt say some \$600 or shall be when I leave Washington. Now I wish to be free — to pay all — yes every cent, and that soon. Do you know of any chance in Me. for me. I tell you “what it is,” I do not care about remaining in the land of slaves. O! give me free air, if it is cold — The climate agrees with me finely, my health is very good. Throat well almost! Some weeks ago I did not feel well — my food distressed me badly, & I concluded to board myself & not eat meat. I have done so for 4 weeks & have not been as well as I now am for a long long time.

Who is with father & mother? I often think of them. Give them my love. Hope you go up and see them often. Do Albert! The excitement still continues in Congress. The papers say the Compromise Bill will have its final passage tomorrow. I intend to be in the Senate and see all. The fate of our Republic, so far as it is in the hands of Congress, will soon be told!!

Write me soon again. Do! Do! Tell me all about father & Mother. Have been intending to write them a long letter but have so much writing to do that I have not had time. Remember me to Sisters Ann & Lorinda, & tell them to write. Farewell Brother! May Gods blessing rest upon you

From your Brother,
A. B. Richardson

36

Albert Richardson
West Jefferson, Me.
Brother Albert

Old Town, Dec. 12, 1850

Your letter to me of the 5 was received giving an account of the Small Pox, also yours of the 10th to Asa just received. We are sorry to hear of the havoc of small pox, but cannot help you. I would not advise

aged persons, such as father & mother to be vaccinated. Think they had better pay particular attention to diet, eat no fat of any kind, take light food & if they have the Small Pox it will not be likely to be as severe as the Kine pox.

In this region we have had several cases. The best treatment is to give no medicine. Keep the patient in a free air & as cool as possible, no danger (if they do not freeze) of too much cold.

We hope to hear a more favorable account of the sickness of our friends next time you write. (Drop us a line every day or two, dont fail, even if you only say a few words) Will you attend to it? I shall feel very anxious to hear from Uncle Wm.

Business with us has been very good this fall, we have as much as we can do in the store — in fact we work hard.

We received a letter from James* yesterday Dated Beals Bar Oct 27, 1850. He was well, and says that he shall come home this Winter, if he returns in the Spring as he thinks it will be necessary to do if he cannot sell out. They have bought a house 25 by 50 & fitted it up for a store & boarding House — cost with fixtures about \$4000. Cannot collect all their pay. If they have fair luck in collecting will do a good business. Says he would like to sell out if he could without too much Loss.

Our family is well — as usual. Respects to all friends in Jefferson.

Write often, I repeat.

Yours

H. Richardson

* J. Y. Richardson — still in California.

Mr. Albert Richardson

West Jefferson, Maine

Old Town, June 8, 1851

Brother Albert,

When I think of all the changes which have taken place since I left Jefferson, among our relatives & friends it looks like a dream. I am lost in the contemplation and forget for a time that I am away, then again I engage in business & almost forget friends. But for all my long absence from home & having had a family around me so long, a family of my own too — whom I love and at present are comfortably situated, I still long to be at the old family fire side & hear the voice of father & mother. The old recollections of home can never be broken up while life & sense remain. Always, when I go under the old paternal roof it seems as if a load of responsibility was taken off my shoulders & I feel again the buoyency of childhood.

I was very glad to hear that father & mother were so well this spring & that Jennet and Erastus were content. See that the old people are comfortable as their condition can be made by their children & whatever is wanted suggest it to me freely — as long as I am as well situated as at present — should they need, I could help them. This is no more than our duty. We hear from James about every two weeks. Asa has gone to Brewer & I am in hopes to hear from him, James, tomorrow by way of a letter to Harriet which was due in Brewer Sat. night. He was well the last letter we received.

Tuesday June 9, 1851

Asa returned this morning, but Harriet did not have a letter from James. We have heard from him by way of John Barton. He had gone to the Southern mines

to collect their dues. John says he shall come home this fall. James was well when he left about a week before. Sewall Knapp & Paul Brown have returned — both been successful & well all the time. Knapp left in May after James & tis said he brings \$10,000. Brown has been there 11 mo. & brings about \$15,000. Both of them went into the mines & dug from day to day. Both have been perfectly healthy & both say there is no better climate in the world. All the sickness arises from improper conduct and exposure. Brown says a miner need not drink rum in C. any more than here. He knows for he has tried both here & there. Both of these men are to be relied on.

Respects to the good old father & mother on the hill.

Yours

H. Richardson

38

Albert Richardson Esqr.

West Jefferson, Me.

Brewer, August 26, 1851

Brother Albert,

I received a letter from you two or three weeks since, for which I am much obliged, should have answered it immediately if it had not been for one reason, and that was I had nothing new from James, hope you will consider this as good a reason for delay as I did, if so you will willingly excuse me for not answering you as soon as I received yours.

I presume Asa told you I received letters from James a few days before he left for Waterville and Jefferson and also the news. Yesterday I received another dated Ferksville July 13 in which he says he is well and prospering in his business affairs, in regard

to coming home he tells the same old story, says he is anxious to come, and intends to, as soon as he can close up business in California, I hope it may be soon, but at the same time I do not see any reason to expect him until late this Fall, if he does not come then I shall begin to think I am really forsaken, do you not think I shall have reason to? I have tried to be consistent in regard to James long absence, but I do some times get out of patience and think if I had it in my power I would close up business in California in a hurry, but to be candid, I can not think it is James duty to stay there so long, but he does, and I must make the best of it, and trust the event with God.

Asa and Miss Foster spent the night with us last night, Asa left for Old Town this morn and Miss Foster has gone to the City. I was happy to see them. I spent the time very pleasantly last eve in asking questions about my Friends in Jefferson, was pleased to hear that you are all well, I should like to have been there with them, but thought it was best for me to keep my visit in anticipation until James comes to go with me, then I shall lose no time in visiting Jefferson. I hope you will none of you, think it strange that I have decided not to visit you until James comes with me, it is not because I do not want to see you all, I assure you, but I think we all shall enjoy the visit better by waiting until our wanderer returns.

I often think of your childless home and pity you from my heart, for I well know there are hours when your hearts ache with loneliness, but you are not without consolation in your deep affliction, your little ones are safe in Heaven, far beyond the reach of sickness and death, but it is hard to give them up, we are so selfish we would keep them here to share with us the cares and sorrows of life, but our Heavenly Father

knows when to take our children, and it becomes us to say Thy will done. I have a great desire for Willis to be spared on James account until he gets home. I have thought a great deal about it; at the time your little ones died, I had very little hope that he would be spared, but my greatest care was for James, I feared he could not be reconciled to it, but I know it is wrong for me to feel so anxious, and I am trying to be more consistent. I have though a great deal of the advice you gave me in your letter and will try and profit by it, I know I am inclined to borrow trouble, I have had too much anxiety about James in his absence. I ought to trust more in God, but I find it quite as difficult to feel right as it is to eat right.

Willis is well and active, has not had any sickness since we were at Jefferson, but is one of the greatest rogues you ever saw, I know you would laugh at some of his pranks and no doubt you would see a great deal in him that needs correcting, but I think he has a good many excellent traits of character, he is very affectionate and generous, any time when he thinks I am sad he will leave his play and stay with me, he says he is going to take care of his mother until his Father comes home, but I will not tell you any more about Willis this time for I must close soon.

You remarked in your letter, that you could not remember who wrote last, you or I, that is not strange at all, as neither of us have written before. Remember me to all my Friends in Jefferson and tell them I should love to see them all.

Yours affectionately

H. O. Richardson*

* James Y. Richardson's wife, Harriet.

P.S. Please write to James often
and tell him to come home.

Harriet

39

Albert Richardson
West Jefferson, Me.

Brewer Nov. 20, 1851

Brother,

I arrived here yesterday morn about three oclock
safe and sound after a passage of thirty days from
San Francisco.

Found my family well though Willy has been sick.
Shall go to Old Town today intend to visate Jefferson
the first of next month sure.

Friends well in Old Town. Find it rather cold
weather here. Please lett Father and Mother know of
my arrival.

Respects to all

In haste Yours,
Jas Young Richardson

40

Mr. Albert Richardson
Old Town, Me.
Bro Albert,

Jefferson June 30'' 1852

I take this opportunity to write a few lines to you.
Presuming you feel anxious to hear from Little Bub*,
by this time, he is well and happy as a little bird. After
you left his eye grew to be verry sore but now is nicely.
We shall start for Boston tomorrow morning to be
gone about five or six days during which time we shall
leave the little boy with Alice where he will have good

* Samuel Albert Richardson (b. Dec. 2, 1851). His mother died
Dec. 23, 1851.

care. It is a general time of health in our vicinity at present no one sick that I know of. Mrs. Eames (Probily you have heard, died verry Sudenly, was well as usual one hour before she was a corpse. The Sabath after you left we had a baptism, Enoch Weeks & Wife, Widow Thos Clark & daughter & Alezira Bond four followed their Savior. Enoch Weeks related his exsperience after the people had assembled at the water side. It was a solemn yet interesting Season, Such a prayer as was made by our beloved Tilley is seldom heard. I suppose you have looked about town (Old Town and Milford) pretty thoroughly by this time.

Please write on receipt of this & let me know what the prospect is &c. Give my respects to all our friends in Old-town.

Yours very Respectfully

S. J. Bond

Note—The Reverend William Tilley is mentioned very frequently in the letters. This remarkable man chose to spend many years in Jefferson although he had opportunities to serve as the pastor of larger congregations at a corresponding increase in salary.

Albert Richardson says of him: "Rev. William Tilley was our fourth pastor. He commenced his work with us January 1852 and continued about four years. His resignation filled our hearts with deep sorrow and for a while the church seemed unwilling to settle anyone else. He was dearly beloved by church and society."

"Rev. William Tilley was our seventh pastor. This is the second time that he has accepted a call from this church. He began his work March, 1862, and continued about nine years. Again he thought it best to resign."

"Rev. William Tilley was our ninth pastor, this being the third time the church called him. He remained with us about eight years, doing excellent work, then, taken sick died Oct. 2, 1882, aged 74 years. During his pastorate of 21 years, 170 were added to the church. He was a very strong, able preacher qualified to grapple with the great truths and as we all well know, his

daily life was one continual sermon. His name and memory are still fragrant with us."

Elder Tilley, as he was usually called, was well-educated, having attended Colby College and a theological school. Between his second and third residences in Jefferson he was pastor of the First Baptist Church in Waterville, Maine. This was a large church attended by the president and many of the professors of Colby College, which was established by the Baptists. He was granted the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Mr. Tilley worked as a carpenter to help pay for his education and did not hesitate to use his skill in working on the interior of the church and on the parsonage while in Jefferson.

In accepting a call to a church or in resigning as pastor, Mr. Tilley was always guided by what he thought to be his duty. The influence for good and the high esteem in which he was held not only by the church members but by the entire community indicate that his decision to work twenty-one years for their spiritual and moral welfare was most fortunate for the people of Jefferson.

41

Mr. Albert Richardson
West Jefferson, Me.
Brother Albert,

Old Town July 13, 1852

Your letter of the 29 ult. was received. I should have written before, but have been sick for a week.

You mention that perhaps no one wishes to see or hear from you — This feeling is bro't on by the change in your social relations, by death. You now look through a false medium a change has come over you which you could not imagine, nothing but experience can teach the awful desolation of heart when the wife of our youth is taken away —

All other friends may be removed, all other ties broken, — all other earthly hopes crushed — all other expectations cut off & we feel as if the weight of our sorrow could not be born; Yet the deadliest dart has

not reached us — the human heart can yet undergo one more severe trial.

Your friends feel much more interested in you, now than before your loss. The change is in you —

The recollection of the past will never vanish like a dream — no never. Let the changes in your future life be as they may — The image of the lost one will constantly attend you. Time will lend a distance to the view, but never efface.

I knew Mary Ann. For me to undertake to speak in her praise to you, would be time sadly misapplied — I loved her as a sister — I know & can feel your loss — but do not know of any language for consolation which I can offer. Silence is the most expressive word.

We expect you to visit us this winter & if you can, should be glad to have you come and spend a few weeks, instead of a day or two.

James & H. are at our house & have been for two weeks. They have not found a house, if they can, they think of house keeping. J, has not yet settled down to business. Says he is weak from the chills, but is getting better fast. Has had no attack since he came here — Asa, in the store. J, has been with him since I have been out — Our children attend school & are well at present except colds. Salome*, as well as usual, and particularly desires me to urge you to come & visit us & stay a few weeks — She says you will feel as well as to stay in Jefn — She is now writing to her sister. We hope you will conclude to come.

I do not think of much news of interest. Mr. Reed of Franklin keeps a Singing School & the friends of temperance are giving ardent Spirits, the right direction in this town, vis: pouring it into the gutter, where

* Henry Richardson's second wife, Salome Eaton.

it has sent so many men — I witnessed two of these operations — one of 4 Bbls. — the other of jugs, demi-johns, kegs, bottles decanters &c — No liquor is sold in this town unless it is secretly & we have a committee of vigilance to keep an eye on them — The traffic must stop —

All the family send their kind regards.

Yours

H. Richardson

42

Albert Richardson

Old Town, Me.

Jefferson Saturday July 21, 1852

Bro Albert,

Perhaps you would like to hear from home, so I will just drop a few words. I did not write immediately on the receipt of yours (which was gratefully recd.) for I thought probably you would be home this week. We got back from Boston two weeks ago today; had a pritty good time, altho I dont injoy such crowds mutch. On our return home we found the folks all well. Little Albert appeared to manifest the most joy to see us of any One, you would have laughfed to see him extend his little hands & manifest all the joy he posibly could without talking, he has been troubled with the diarrhoea for a week past. We think it is on account of his teeth we can see that he loses flesh but still is playfull & as bright as a little pin.

I will just say that you are not forgotten by your friends in Jefferson, inquiries are manny, & often for you, your health &c. We miss you in the preyar meeting & Shall be glad when we shall again meet you there. Eld. Stevens has returned to Waldoboro V.I.A. of Jefferson with his new wife, was as tickled as a child

with a rattle So they said; I did not see him, he is expected to preach here soon. Emily sends her respects to you and all our friends in Old Town. She says tell Albert she has got the Baby a little gold ring that she promised him some time ago — Give my respects to your Brothers & Sisters also to Uncle Jonth.* & Aunt if you see them. Please excuse this for I am in a great hurry &c.

Yours Respectfully

S. J. Bond

43

Albert Richardson

Old Town, Me.

Jefferson Aug. 1 1852

Brother Albert

We have looked for you for a long time but in vain some have almost looked one eye out. I have been to the office a number of times expecting to hear from you, but it was otherwise by the way I heard today from you by H's letter to S. W. J. & was glad to hear of the improvement of your health. H. Made enquiry for your Mother's health in particular. She has been verry feeble for 3 weeks past has not been able to keep about house all day at a time during this time she had a verry bad cough. It is the most severe nights some nights she coughs from 1 to 2 hours after going to bed almost incesantly. She has appeared better yesterday & today whether it is to continue or not we do not know but hope it will. Father is & has been quite lame through haying. The other friends are well as usual.

* Jonathan Eames (b. Jan. 13, 1783, Jefferson, Me.) lived in Old Town and is often mentioned in the letters.

I saw your boy last Friday, he was so fat & plump I could hardly see his eyes. I understand you are not going into business we should like to have you come home & make a visit if no more

I have not time to write more. Give my respects to friends Pleas write soon.

Yours in haste,

E. F. Weeks

44

Mr. Albert Richardson West Jefferson, Me.
Old Town Maine Sunday Afternoon Aug 8" 52
Dear Brother

Jennet says mother appears better, I have not seen her since last Wednesday then I thought she might get over it.

We received Henrys letter Monday noon stating Jaynes Expectorant helped you; he thought we had better get it for her. Samuel found it at Wiscasset — I called with it Wednesday told her what Henry said.

I think she will take it regular — Father continues lame.

I heard from your little boy today by Hannah Young* he is smart and well — Eld Tilley has expressed a wish to see you says he has some Church business to talk about — Mrs. Tilley is very sick confined last monday night, this morning I found her prostrated, sweating profusely and vomiting since yesterday afternoon what the result will be God only knows. I fear very much her day's are few. She told me about six weeks ago she never should occupy their

* Little Albert's aunt, his mother's older sister.

new house — We were much disappointed because you and Asa did not come home, last week.

Write soon tell us what you are doing.

L. J.*

Write to Father & Mother.

Albert Richardson

Jefferson, Me.

Old Town Sept 22, 1852

Dear Bro. Albert:-

Your kind favor of the 15th inst. was recd. in due time with no small degree of pleasure. We were all pleased to learn of your election as representative particularly as you were run in opposition to a rum man. Jefferson has done nobly. It is high time that all good, highminded persons should unite in support of moral men.

Are Father & Mother coming to O. T. this fall? Let them come soon. Tell Father he can sell his horse 135\$ if he comes down, then they can return by Boat to Rockland —

James wants George Bond to come down to Old Town. I should like to see him very much. Please tell him. Let me hear from you as soon as possible. Please send my things as soon as convenient & greatly oblige.

Yours Truly Asa B. (Richardson)

Love to Parents & all other : Excuse my haste.

* Lorinda Jackson, née Richardson.

46

Mr. Albert Richardson

Old Town, Me.

Jefferson Oct 24" 1852

Bro Albert,

I have just a moment before William starts so I will drop a line. Those little shoes, socks & mits, were just a fit for little Ally he is well & Smart as a cricket, just the prittiest little fellow you can find in ten towns. The folks are all well in our neiborhood. Uncle Jos, George, S. W. & Henry started for Boston this morning. We had a blessed good meeting last night. Old Mrs. Catland was buried last Friday, meeting in the North Village School-house; Sermon by our beloved Tilley & a good one it was. Matilda Meservey is verry sick not expected to live but a few days. She manifests a good hope in God so I've been told. When making some arrangments with the family preparitory to her death, in the disposition of her things, as her friends were weeping, she exclaimed; why this weeping, there is no cause for weeping; Im not afraid to die: & remains as calm as a Summer Evening. I have not time to write more so I will close

From your Friend,

S. J. Bond

47

Mr. Albert Richardson

Augusta, Me.

Jefferson, Feb. 9, 1853

Brother Albert,

Hope you will enjoy the session better as it advances. Expect it will probably not be so stormy if the question of Senator is settled, at least I hope it will not. Is there no way for the Dem. to unite to keep a Whig out of the U. S. Senate. From your letter & the proceedings of the house it looks rather doubt-

ful, but I will wait till to-morrow & see what the result of your doings will be.

Uncle Tommy has been quite sick, thought he could not live but to his great disappointment has got quite smart so he has got to stay away from home (Heaven) a spell longer probably his work is not quite done yet.

Our prayer meetings are well attended with a good degree of interest or freedom. Eld Tilley commenced last Sunday morning a series of sermons on the doctrines of the bible. His text, "There is a God" a rich begining. I think the afternoon text was, "Without me you can do nothing". Subject: We must work with God & not without him. It was one of his clear and lucid sermons taking away all the stumbling blocks from all, on the whole it was what you believe to a fraction. Henry told me they were going to write to Eld Tilley to come there. I hold it would be of no use for he would not go neither would we let him.

Yours in haste with respects

E. F. Weeks

Please write. Excuse all blunders for I have not time to look this over for I am with S.W.J.

Albert Richardson

Jefferson, Me.

Old Town May 16, 1853

Dear Bro. Albert:-

Henry tells me you are talking of a visit to O. T. Well come down here, I shall be right glad to see you. How do Father & Mother do this Spring? I wish to see them very much but there is no chance till Aug. — unless they can come down East also. I am now in the High School. The Academy is shut up. Commenced

my present term 2 weeks ago today. Had but 3½ days vacation.

By the way we are just commencing house-keeping. Think you will laugh out right to see us in our small way. Come & see us! We'll give you something to eat, but cannot put you up over night, as we have but one bed as yet. Will you ask Mother if she intended I should have the bed I used while at College. She said something about it once. It would be a pretty present right now. If she does so intend, do you think you can pack it and send it to Rockland & thence by steam?

Mr. Richardson was obliged to go to school and leave the conclusion of this to me. He wished me to ask you to have the kindness to bring his straw hat. He carried home with him three sermons printed in one pamphlet with a brown cover of paper. I think the subject of one was the "Apostolic Succession". If you will bring that with you you will oblige me, as it was promised to be lent, and I also wished to read it. We shall look for you soon.

Yours respectfully

Annie C. Richardson*

49

Albert Richardson

Jefferson, Me.

Old Town May 16, 1853

Bro Albert,

D. Spring will sell his stock in trade, as he has just made a contract to go to California & must close all his business & be off by the 5th June

Think you had better come without a moments

* Mrs. Asa B. Richardson, née Foster.

delay & if you think it advisable, buy his stock. Think you can get a good trade.

Yours, H. Richardson

50

Albert Richardson
Old Town, Me.

Jefferson June 30 — 1853

Mr. A. Richardson dear Sir I improve the moment I have, to inform you that Ephraim Weeks and Mother have lost their house by fire yesterday June 29. About noon they were eating dinner when they heard a noise sounding like fire in the Chamber, they rushed to the chamber door and discovered the chamber all in flames so that they could have no access to it where most of their bedding, furniture, trunks and clothing were. Most of their neighbours were from home, and his wife sick and confined to her bed and had to be moved on her bed to the barn. They have lost most all they had in the house. Eph. saved one bed only without a bedstead, and what few things they had in the celler. Eph saved no clothing accept what he had on his back consisting of vest and pants and ragged at that. Abbie lost all her clothing her bedding and furniture which she had prepared for house-keeping and \$20 in money, saved nothing but a wash dress she had on as she had been washing. Mother saved one common bed and bedstead and beauro and the clothes she had on. They had but a few minutes to git out anything the fire spread so rapidly — They are completely destitute — We are trying to do all we can here for them and it is one unfortunate time more so at present as we have been collecting for widow Tobey to help her in making up her loss of her house, what I suppose you have heard of. I have been advised to advise you of the facts and

knowing you and your brothers are among his warmest friends that probably they and you might feel disposed to help relieve his wants which will be greatly — fully received. Please inform your folks and should they do anything please send it to me and I will see it safe to them — We are well as usual and the folks around us accept Mrs. Witham is failing.

Yours Respectfully

Josiah Weeks

P. S. Eph had no insurance on his house the policy having run out some time back.

51

Mr. Albert Richardson

Old Town, Me.

Jefferson June 13th 1853

Bro Albert,

We are tired of waiting for a letter from you, so I will drop a line. We presume you have got into business, so deep that you have forgotten your friends in Jefferson or are sick as you would have written to us before this time. Little S. Albert (for I suppose you want to hear of him the most of any body) is well and is as interesting a little fellow as can be scared up. He can talk quite plain.

Business is pretty good for this place. Have been open three weeks & have had a pretty good run of trade. Took \$20 Saturday Evening after six. I saw Erastus F. yesterday at meeting. Says they feel quite anxious to hear from you & wonder what the cause can be that you don't write. Horace Chapman was married yesterday to Mary Wright. Eld Tilley's health is improving fast so that he preached twice at the meeting house and in the afternoon at the north Village beside tying the knot. Give my best respects to all

friends in Old Town. Tell Asa to write me a letter. Write on receipt of this, say how you found things down East, how business is how you like it &c &c.

From your Friend,

Sam J. Bond

Mr. Albert Richardson
Old Town, Me.

Jefferson Monday Morning July 18-1853

Bro Albert, again I spend a few moments to drop you a line. Thinking perhaps you would like to hear from Old Jefferson altho it has been but a short time since I wrote you yet we like to often hear from absent friends and especially your little Boy which to you probily is very dear. We think enough of him, & probily fondle him more than is for his benifit but how can we help it. You would like to hear his little prattle & hear him exspress the ideas which are forming in his little mind. Emily says she kises him enough for all hands. He was much pleased with his little horse. Calls him his Coltty. But I have written enough baby talk probily as mutch as you want to hear. Your Father & Mother got home the day after they left Old Town, safe and sound. Drove through to Appleton first day. Said they had a good visit. I saw them at meeting yesterday all well. Mother is quite feeble. She fails I think fast not able to keep up all of the time. Probily she cant stand it but a short time. Roxannah (David's Wife) is verry low, not able to get up even long enough to have her bed made. Her arm commensed bleeding last Wednesday week & bled for twelve hours. The probility is she cannot live but a short time.

Bro Tilley's health is good & preaches us some verry interesting Sermons. His wife I forgot to say is

quite feeble. Dr. Barton thinks her case a critical one (by the way I will just say Dr. Barton is doing a good business here has about all the practice & has wonderful success). Had Eli Noyes to preach to us a few weeks since. Probily the last Sermon he ever will preach so he said. He had not attempted to preach before for eight months. His health is poor, so feeble that he had to have help into the desk. He sais he had an anxious desire to again visit his native Town, to again look upon those hills & dales over which he had so often rambled in the days of his boyhood. In all my ramblings (he says) I have never found a spot so dear to me as this. He said he wanted to visit the place of his nativity that he might once more shake the hands of his old friends & their children. His text was "I would not live always". After giving the many reasons why he would not live always, he went on to tell why he would go to Heaven 1st was to see those loved ones which had gone on before: to see all the primitive Saints: to inquire of Enoch how he was saved by his faith & last to see his Saviour, to have unfolded lief by lief the glories of Heaven. But I will leave you to judge what kind of a sermon we had from such a text & from such a man as Noyes.

Business here is as good as can be exspected. I am glad you have got so good a location & good business. Your Father says business is tiptop in Old Town. Some times I think I should like to be there.

Give my love to all friends in Oldtown. — Emily sends her respects to you & all other friends also sends little babie's. He is now out in the field where Emily is hanging her clothes. Smart as a cricket

Yours Respectfully

S. J. Bond

Albert Richardson
Old Town, Me.

Jefferson July 31, 1853

Brother Albert,

Yours of the 20th was received the 26th.

Your Father brings as good report of your situation (I mean by your, all of you) as did Caleb and Joshua of the promised land. Glad to hear you are so well contented with your chances for a living. Wish I could say the same of myself. I have come to the conclusion it is not my duty to stay here and carry on this whole farm to the halves, therefore, I think I shall leave the mountain as soon as I can get some place to go. Do you think I had ought to do it! Will you please answer this question.

You spoke of a desire to hear Eld Tilley preach one of his good sermons. I should be glad to have you hear him preach every sabbath but not in Old Town. The prayer meetings at North Village are about as usual. Sometimes dull & sometimes more life and animation. I think there is not so good an interest felt at the meeting house on the sabbath as there has been or ought to be. The sabbath school seems to be on the wane. I feel sometimes as though I was the sole cause* and then again I feel as tho' parents would have to be accountable if the school goes down. I feel sometimes as though we should be left and given over in Jefferson to become wicked and regardless of any thing good as it is said some places around us are said to be. The best of the promising men for Society seem to be leaving town. I think the prospects for this place are on the dark side. S. W. Jackson has the offer of deputy collector at Waldoboro. It is generally believed that he will take

* Mr. Weeks was superintendent of the Sunday School.

the same. We have had quite a sharp drought here. The hay came in not as good as last year with us. There is scarcely any feed in the pasture. The grasshoppers almost cover the ground in the pastures, consequently, there cant be any feed till they go away. I think they will entirely destroy our spring wheat. At night it is almost black with them. They eat the head off. Corn about as good as I ever saw. Potatoes good the best in neighborhood.

Please answer this with your advice as soon as convenient.

Yours with Respects

E. F. Weeks

54

Mr. Albert Richardson

Old Town, Me.

Jefferson Sept. 11, 1853

Brother Albert

Your letter of the 26 ult. has come to hand. You speak of severe trials and do not know the cause. I feel to pity those who feel discontented as they say you seem to be. As for your trials you know where to go with them and on whom to cast your burdens for he careth for his elect. I should advise you in the language of one of old "Whatsoever he saith unto you do it."

Our prayer meeting has been kept up as yet. It is not quite so well attended by those who do not profess as it has been, but we have some very good meetings. Meetings at the meeting house are very well attended. Our sabbath school has been on the wane for some time. We shall close it soon, or it will die. You may ask how are you getting along. As to myself I feel that God is unchangeable, and there is perfect safety in trusting in him although I feel the most of the time as though

I had no part nor lot in the matter. I feel as tho' this world was no friend to me; neither do I enjoy much of it.

I attended the association* last week, had a very pleasant time. The letters from most of the churches spoke of being in a low state but strong confidence in God. The business was done in harmony, the sermons were good especially Bro. Tilley's. His subject was Faith he spoke of the nature of faith, the power and the necessity of an increase of faith. He said faith gave the possessor a view of the yawning of the gulf of woe and the wailing and agony of the lost and also a view of the pearly gates of the new Jerusalem, the golden streets, the bliss of the redeemed ones from off the earth, and of angels praising God on harps of gold &c. In speaking of feeble churches he says "Can a church be feeble with Christ in it?" The meeting closed up by an exhortation from Eld. Chisam**. He spoke with arms extended, his frame trembling, tears coursing down his face. His appeal was to sinners. It was very solemn and impressive. It was the most powerful appeal I ever heard him give. He closed the meeting

* The association was comprised of several Baptist churches in adjoining towns. Meetings were held at intervals in one of these churches. The meeting lasted all day; ministers preached their best sermons; and reports of progress, or lack of progress, were read by a representative of the individual churches. At noon refreshments were served by the ladies of the church in which the association was held.

** The Reverend Samuel Chisam (b. 1791) married Mary Ann Bond (b. 1789), who was a sister of Jennet Bond, Albert Richardson's mother. Mr. Richardson says of him: "Rev. Samuel Chisam was our second pastor. He commenced his labors January 1837 and served 9 years. He was a very godly man and retired full of honors, and universally respected. 150 were added to the church during his pastorate."

by prayers for the conversion of all ungodly persons, weeping. The singing was good.

Your father has sold his horse for \$125. Shall expect you home after the session of the legislator.

In looking this over I see I have not spoken of your boy. He came up to see his Grandmother week before last. Guess he enjoyed his visit pretty well tho' he did not stay in the house much. He preferred being out-doors throwing rocks &c acting out the boy to a demonstration. Have seen him several times since. Appears well & happy.

Yours in love

E. F. Weeks

55

Mr. Albert Richardson

Old Town, Me.

Jefferson Sept. 13, 1853

My dear Brother & friend,

Yours of the 29th ult. has been received and I have delayed answering not from want of a proper respect for you but owing to other engagements which have necessarily taken all, or so near all my time that I have not found it convenient to write you before.

So far as news is concerned, I have but little to say. Your friends generally are as well as usual and it has been more than usual a time of health in this place this season. We progress along here so much after the old sort that I hardly see anything to call news. A birth, a marriage, or a death, the three noted periods in the history of almost every person, taking place occasionally causes a little stir for a moment and then the world goes on as usual, (and were it not for our ears we should hardly know that any of them had taken place,) while we still are moving on towards, in

appearance, the end, but probably to fulfil some great destiny.

In your letter you speak of different topics but one prominent one is, your own personal feelings, and to that I propose at the time to direct the substance of this letter in as much as I expect I shall see you when up at the extra session of the Legislature when matters and things in general will be talked over, and what little I have to say here is to a point that I but seldom talk.

You say you are far from being happy & contented although situated about as you had desired. I am more surprised at that, when I take into consideration the events of twenty years past and connect them with our present position. Our acquaintance has been very intimate and we have been placed during that period in various ways that our connection must have a decided influence on our feelings when corresponding with each other when naturally those events will unconsciously rush to the mind. Having always lived in the same vicinity, — moved in the same circle — associated in the same company — claimed the same friends — attended the same church — singing in the same choir — and for many years I was a very constant visitor in your father's family, and for as many more concerned in business with you & occupying the same house. These, altogether, were there nothing else, would have an influence on our feelings were our minds of an ordinary cast when first separated, perhaps but for a short time but probably forever in a business point of view.

But there are other scenes, than those named, that have a more decided influence on our feelings that have transpired during that time. Those never-to-be-forgotten scenes of 1850 & 51, when almost all the dearest

objects of earth to us were taken away, will of themselves create a sympathy of feeling that will exist with us, while reason holds its sway, and at almost every thought call to mind the dear departed — So then of course I shall never expect to receive a letter of friendship from you nor write one to you but will bear some tinge of those scenes. Subjects upon which I but seldom ever talk, but think none the less and I can probably in safety say that I have ridden thousands of miles with no other thoughts in my mind.

I do not then expect to hear you say that you are a happy man when visiting anyone that will awaken these scenes. More especially that of 1851, of the loss of her the dearest of all in earth to you, the one whom you had selected out of the thousands you had seen for the very place she filled, and would undoubtedly again if life were to be commenced anew. The intensity of your feelings at that loss you know I cannot tell but I realize as well as I can from what I have known and have always judged it to be the severest trial of a person's life and to me it has always been the dreaded one. You undoubtedly found in her all you expected to find in a mortal and this may make the loss seem the heavier but with very different feelings, and her loss has created an aching void that time can never heal. Still with some views of the future the loss of those dear objects cannot but be to you at times causes of emotions of peculiar pleasure when you think in the strain of the poet when he says, describing the exile —

Hear me then O! friend of Childhood,
Hear an exiles dying prayer,
When I soar to climes Elysian
Let me meet my loved ones there.

Did you ever imagine to yourself, Albert, that when the lamp of life should be extinguished with you here, should you be so favored as to have a convoy of Heaven's most holy Angels to escort your immortal spirit across that sea that divides the heavenly land from ours, that when about approaching that Shore, should you be able to discern with unmistakable sight among the happy throng there, your little band that had gone before you, and as you near that shore, see them with uplifted hands beckoning you onward, and hear them singing in seraphic strains of Heaven's most melodious music. Welcome — Welcome here. Would it not repay you for all your losses & trials here —

I have been obliged to write you more in haste, without going over to correct errors, than I designed to but every moment some one calls and I am obliged to stop for other purposes and I am afraid I shall be late for the mail.

Respects to all

Yours as ever

Samuel Jackson

56

Albert Richardson Esqr.

Old Town, Maine

Jefferson Oct 20, 1853

Brother Albert,

I received your letter last Saturday eve. with pleasure and read it with more for I expected to hear that you was sick. Your Father received one from Asa a day or two before yours. Both spoke of the Rev. Mr. Belcher as being engaged to preach with you. Glad to hear of your good fortune in getting such a man but it is no use to put too much confidence in man for they fail. God does not, so we may trust him with safety.

We have a good minister but if God does not assist, his labors will be in vain.

We had rather a cold conference* last Thursday but few there, about 30. Had rather a good prayer meeting last sabbath evening, a good degree of interest. Quite a number present. I was down to Damariscotta to the sabbath school convention this week. Had a fine meeting, the speakers spoke with seeming interest and zeal. We never had a sabbath school that came anywhere near the standard they set up. They took the ground that the sabbath school was the nursery of the church and that it was indispensable for the growth of the church. Rev. G. Tuck went into the work as a stout smart man would at any rugged work.

I was told that a man by the name of Flagg was thrown from his wagon and struck his head on a rock, braking his skull and leaving a part of his brains on the rock. Died in the evening of same day. He was a son-in-law of Eld Colier formerly of Washington. Another warning to be always ready! When I got home I heard that Wm. Briard had a daughter brought from Boston dead. Abial Hall died last week of typhus (not typhoid) fever so we are passing away. Another admonition to do whatsoever we have to do quickly.

Please give respects to all friends and write often.

Respectfully yours

E. F. Weeks

* Conference was a meeting held once a month at the church, usually on Saturday afternoon. Only church members attended. They sat in the front pews in the middle section of the church. The minister presided, opening and closing the meeting by prayer, but preaching no sermon.

At conference each church member, in his turn, confessed to

Albert Richardson Esq.

Old Town, Maine

Jefferson Nov. 9, 1853

Brother Albert,

I received yours of the 3rd inst. last evening. I hardly know how to speak of our friends in general terms, shall have to speak of them seperately. Lot has been laid aside from business three weeks and continues to fail. Has a very hard cough and the most severe pain in his lungs. I think it very doubtful if he will ever be any better. Aunt Polly has been failing quite fast since David's wife was buried. George Kennedy has been very sick with the typhoid fever. Albert Ames is also sick with the slow fever so you see that we are all liable to sickness. Thomas Powers buried his son, Thomas, last Wednesday, making the 3rd child within about a year that had grown to man & womanhood. Asa Hagget buried his wife last saturday. Eld. Wm. Burbank, this Sunday, preached the funeral sermon himself.

I saw your boy last sabbath eve. He is as smart and more mischevious than ever. Enoch Weeks has been to Belfast to see Dr. Quimby the mesmeric Doctor. Has got home is able to walk about the house. I have just heard from court, Oliver Jones has lost his case. We have had quite a snow storm but the rain this morning has taken it about all off. We have had some very excellent prayer meetings I think. On sabbath evenings, Mrs. Rowell has got her prayer meeting a going again. I have not had an opportunity of attending

his fellow members the sins which he had committed during the past month and prayed for forgiveness. This frankness caused embarrassment and humiliation, but in those austere times the sense of duty prevailed. Many members of the church attended conference regularly.

any of them but Eld. Tilley told me that there appears to be quite an interest so that he feels some encouraged. I do not feel that interest that I ought too. I feel cold & stupid.

Give my respects to all friends

Yours Respectfully

E. F. Weeks

58

Albert Richardson Esq.
Old Town, Maine

Jefferson, Me.
Sunday P. M. Feby 5, 1854

Bro Albert,

By your letter I learn that you have sold out your business in O. T. and are coming home. Well we shall all be glad to see you & without doubt you will be glad to again greet some of your old friends in Jefferson. I learn by last letter that you are brought into a short place in regard to leaving Old T. to know what is duty. I can readily see that it would bring a trial to leave a people who in so short a time attachment has become so strong. Those who feel that your help is so much needed amongst them. But so it is in the course of this world. We are constantly forming associations to be soon broken up. We appoint but God disappoints; we plan but God thwarts. Our only hope of comfort is in looking above the things of this world. Anticipating the time when we shall git home to injoy the company of friends, relatives & all those loved ones who have gone on before & the best of all Christ.

Little S. Albert has been to meeting this evening & behaved like a little man. Spoke out a few time said it's time to go home. He has been afflicted with a humor on his arms which has been very bad. Is some better at present. Has also had a sore break in his head discharged from his left ear — is now better. Whilst I am

now writing Emily is getting him ready for bed & his little prattle is a going smartly. Mother is quite feeble, her health continues gradually to fail. Her feet are a good deal swollen which indicates the time of her dissolution not far distant. But we have one blessed comfort — hope beyond the grave. Eld. Tilleys health is as good as usual, he still continues to hope and labor on. If there was ever a people that was faithfully warned it is the people in Jeffn but still as a body we remain unmoved.

I will not write more for I expect soon to see you. Emily sends her respects to you & all friends in Old T. Also give mine.

Samuel Bond

59

Mr. Albert Richardson

Old Town, Me.

Jefferson Feb. 14, 1854

Brother Albert,

I received a letter from you some time ago saying you had closed up business in Oldtown and should be at home. When we heard from you and your determination for the future, we all said amen. Well, we looked forth with anxious eyes to the time we expected you home. The brethren and friends a fortnight ago confidently expected to see you at the N. V. school house last sabbath eve. But oh! think of the disappointment we met with when we met there, and some of us were told by (Emily) that S.J.B. received a letter from you the day before stating that you had engaged to teach music this winter in O. Town instead of coming home. So we had to go on with our meeting as well as we could without you. We had a very good meeting but we miss you very much indeed. Suppose we shall not see you face to face for some time to come

although this is the way we most desire to see those we love, but expect as you are a ready penman to hear from you often.

Our meetings on the sabbath are very well attended although there is no special interest manifested in this part of the town but at the center there is a more than usual interest. The people of Waldoboro, Nobleboro & Jefferson intend to make Eld. Chisam a donation visit next Thursday afternoon & evening.

The people, or some of them, are forming a temperance watchman's club at N. Village. Hope it will be instrumental in doing good.

Saw your boy a few days ago. He had a very bad looking humor on his arms. Other ways he is bright & active. Aunt Polly I learn is quite feeble. Orchard Richardson went up to Appleton last week & brought home Elizabeth Richardson with him. I suppose we must call her Mrs. now. Guess O. has got a clever good natured wife. I understand that S. J. Bond has a good smart school at Bond's hall. I believe it is a general time of health now here except bad colds. Most every one has a cold that we meet with

Nothing more to write about. I think if you asked me how I liked tending store, I would answer, quite as well as I expected. S.W.J. says he has got quite as much or more money this winter from the store as at any former time. Have taken over \$200 in money the last 2 weeks. Shall expect to hear from you often as it seems that a wise providence has so ordered it, that you have to stay in Oldtown perhaps to do good, I hope so at any rate.

Please write on receipt of this.

E. F. Weeks

Mr. Albert Richardson

Old Town, Me.

Jefferson March 12th 1854

My Dear Brother Albert,

I have read & re-read your very kind & affectionate letter with pleasure & satisfaction although undeserving and unworthy to receive such a letter. I very often feel as though I never had done any good in the world and fear that I never shall. Yet I think that I have a heart to try to relieve & assist those who are in distress. I have done no more for you, dear brother, than I would do again in like circumstances.

I think much about you, I know that you must feel very lonely and unhappy as far as the enjoyment of wordly things are concerned. I know that your dearest earthly comforts are gone & can never be replaced. I do not wonder that you still feel to mourn for your dear wife. She was indeed worthy of our love. I can never forget the happy hours spent in her pleasant company. I love to think of the very pleasant visits that I have had at your home when your dear Mary Ann & your precious little cherubs were alive & well. Those seasons will long be remembered by me.

While I am writing, our little darling is sleeping by my side. The poor little fellow has suffered exceedingly this winter with his humors but is some better now. He has been the most patient little creature you ever saw. I know that I could not have borne it so well as he has. He talks much about papa way down east. Says he wants you to come home & see him & bring him a little horse. He is a smart little thing I assure you, he is a great talker & can sing pretty well. Sometimes I tell him I am afraid he knows too much. I often look upon the little creature with pity & cannot help feeling to ask why it was that his precious mother must

be taken from him when he needs her so much & she would have loved him so dearly. But this question I am unable to answer, it is among the dark providences of God. We cannot know now but if we are what we profess to be, we shall know bye & bye. I shall be obliged to close after telling you a little about the folks as time is failing me.

Mother Bond is very feeble indeed. So much so that she cannot get up or sit or get on to her bed or off without help. I never saw her so low before. I think if you want to see her again while living, you will have to come soon.

Aunt Jackson is still alive is a very great sufferer.

Lot W. is very sick it is feared that he never will go out again. I have not been to see him but am told that he is very anxious to get well. Death is the gate to endless joy to the Christian, and yet we dread to enter there. Uncle Tommy has been quite sick — is better now. The rest of the folks are stirring about as usual.

Little Albert is sitting in my lap now teasing for a pen. Says he wants to write a letter to papa way down East. Samuel sends his love & wants to see you very much. Says he has nothing of importance to write.

Come to see us very soon, wont you? We all want to see you. Give my respects to all who for me may inquire, particularly to your brother H. & wife. I very often think of the pleasant visit I had at their house & of their kindness to me when I was sick. Tell them that I should be very happy to see them at Jefferson this summer. My love to Mary A. & Abbott.

Albert, you will excuse poor writing and bad composition, when I tell you that I have written this,

four or five lines at a time. I don't get much time to write. You know pretty well how it is at our house — My health is about as usual with the exception of a cough — Write to us soon, a letter from you is gladly received at any time.

When you come home you may, if you please, bring the little boy such a hat or cap as you would like to have him wear this summer.

Asa & wife have not called on us yet. We are expecting them.

I send you a little piece of music. I think it is very sweet indeed —

Your Unworthy Sister

E. W. Bond

61

Albert Richardson Esqr.

Jefferson, Me.

Augusta, March 24, 1854

Brother Albert

I have had so many letters to write on matters connected with my business, that I have hardly found time to write to a brother.

Our session will probably close on Tuesday next. We have had a large amount of business before us this session & the change of officers has taken no small amount of time — So we have had to work diligently.

I intended to go to Jef. again before going home but the going has been so bad, tho't best to delay.

We have had a very pleasant & working board. All our business has been done harmoniously and we hope for the benefit & best interest of the State.

If you want the money on that note you hold, let me know soon & I will meet it after the 15th of May. At that time I have about 1700\$ due from Dwinal.

When do you think of going to Old Town? Better come down this season.

Give my best regards to Father & Mother. I never forget them. — To Erastus & Jennett and all the little ones, let me be remembered & to all other friends.

Yours,

H. Richardson

62

Albert Richardson Esq.

Jefferson, Me.

Old Town, May 1, 1854

Bro. Albert,

I will write you a few lines this morning hoping you will communicate to our dear Parents — and other friends — You know very well what time I left Jefn. (3¼ o'clock) — Well we were from that time till half past eleven on the way. (to Rockland) Just the worst time one could possibly have had. Your Umb'a was the only one in the stage & there were three ladies: so I did what I could to protect the dear ones and consequently got wet myself. I "took cold" (as we Yankees say,) and do not yet feel free from its influence. Had a very bad headache Sat. & Sunday — but — feel quite like a man this morning. Left Rockland Sat. at 5 O'clock A. M. in the Daniel Webster & arrived in Bangor at 12 noon, too late to take the cars till half past five o'clock P. M. Found friends in Oldtown quite well. Annie arrived here Friday morning — having come through from Wat. on Thursday — the same day I left the old Habitation. She had a very disagreeable ride, but did not take much cold.

Rev. Mr. Belcher is standing close by me (no he is off now) and requests me to give his respects &c. Says, as you are a gentleman at leisure, he has been looking for a letter from you. Belcher is said to have

preached his greatest sermon yesterday. The Baptist society here sent to Boston for a draught for their new meeting house — Expecting it next Wed. Have \$4000 joint stock taken up. Veazie has given them a lot just north of the old one — joining — Rev. Mr. Belcher told James this morning that they were going to have a hand on the top of the spire with the finger pointing upwards. James told him, he thought it would be a very good idea, as there would be nothing inside the house to point people upwards.

They had their School meeting last week, but I have heard but little from it as James was not present. Hiram Smith is agent. I do not know whether they will offer me the school or not; but this much is very certain, I do not intend to keep it unless they pay \$100 per month. It is no use to live when folks are not contented.

Excuse my haste — Annie wishes to be remembered to all. My love to all. I told mother I should write immediately & you will please read her this.

In Brotherly Kindness,

Asa B.

63

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson, Maine

Old Town, May 10, 1854

Dear Uncle Albert,

I suppose the first thing you will want to hear about is the Choir, and I know you will be well pleased when I tell you that it is flourishing finely. Lately we have all met and sang at the prayer meetings Sabbath eve. which have been well attended.

The last of last week, Mrs. Stimson (The one that is called Old Aunt Jimmie) gave two levees at St.

James hall, both of them ended about 12 in a perfect drunken row. Such as ringing the church bell, screaming, setting fire to the things, &c. Our Little Annie was very much vexed to think it was passed off in the name of the Episcopal society.

Annie has been here about a fortnight and you can believe that we were all very much surprised to see her come along. However Uncle Asa came soon after she did. They spent a few days here then went over to Uncle James's. They packed up and sold off many of their things. Then Uncle James & Asa left last Wednesday, the first for Boston & the last for Rhode Island. Annie is spending this week with Aunt Harriet who is alone or without a girl.

Give my love to all the friends in Jefferson and vicinity. If you go to Warren, call on the McCollum's. Your friends here, send their respects to the Mountain folks, & the singers want you to come back. Olive says she hopes they will stone you out up there, so you will have to.

Please write to me if you think this worth an answer and I remain as ever

Your respectful Niece,

Mary Ann (Richardson)

64

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson, Maine

Oldtown May 18th 1854

Dear Brother Albert,

Your letter did not arrive until after Asa left. He went from here a fortnight today — to Providence or rather Scituate. Dr. Fabyan took him out in his carriage and was very polite to him. He liked the looks of the grounds &c. very much. Found Mr. Quimby a very

reliable man, said they averaged 75 scholars — calculated that after paying expenses & boarding teachers, there would be left about \$1000, to pay the salaries with. He said the main part of the building is left unfurnished for the teachers. The piano goes with the rent. I judged from the tone of the letter that he thought it would not pay, and so they all think, but Henry and myself. But I shall not advise for he does not follow it if I do. I heard from him yesterday in Springfield, Mass. He took that route for New York. He had heard there was a first class boarding school in New Jersey in want of a Teacher for the English department, also that a building was being erected in Cincinnati as a school for boys and they wanted a gentleman and his wife. He expected to meet the agent of Maine later in N. York.

I am superintending Henry's domicile in the absence of himself and Salome. They have gone to Boston — The children behave very well. Mary Ann has had a very bad cold & cough. She is much better of it now, yet any exposure to wind or cold causes her to cough. I rather think that Mr. Alford intends to persevere in his attentions to Mary. Her parents make no objection.

Asa sent his love to you all at home. Give my love too and tell them what I have written about him.

Yours affectionately

A. C. Richardson

65

Albert Richardson Esq.

Jefferson, Maine

Old Town, May 29, 1854

Bro. Albert

I presume by this time, that you may know by way of S. W. Jackson, that I am again in Me. after an absence

of three weeks. Annie & Mary Ann rec'd letters from you this day. We were all pleased to learn that our friends in Jefferson were well, &c. It seems that the young people of your place are acknowledging a saving belief in a crucified Savior.

Henry seems to be doing a very good business. Says he intends to sell 30,000\$ worth this year. Do you think he can do it? Asa Smith Jr. wishes to get the store & told Henry, he would pay him \$300 if he (Henry,) would give up the lease.

We expect to leave Old Town next Thursday, so as to meet the stage at Rockland on Friday. Salome says Annie has been working for her & cannot get ready but I think differently.

If you think the friends in Jefferson do not care to see us, — just let me know & we will keep outside. Henry is waiting to take this down. Are they not having war in Boston? I sometimes fear we are on the verge of bloodshed.

Love to all,

Yours truly,

Asa B.

66

Albert Richardson Esq.

Jefferson, Maine

Old Town Sept. 1, 1854

Bro Albert,

We have laid the Foundation & contracts for the building of a meeting house, to be completed by 15 Dec.

There is a good reformation in this place, whether within the time of Mr. Belcher's prediction or not I do not remember as I did not write it down — do you know? 3 weeks ago, he baptized 3 — Since 4, & several more are expecting to go forward next sabbath. Quite

a number have been added by letter & otherwise. Eld. Blanchard works with Mr. B. & no other minister has been here to take part that I have heard of — Hope the reform may go on. Old Town needs it.

Monday, 4th

Every day I am asked why you do not come down & see the people. Why dont Albert come is the question I have to answer, some how all the time & I dont know why you dont. Why dont you? I have expected you these 2 months & think you had better come immediately. The people do want to see you — Write immediately & let me know why you do not come forthwith & when you will. I have many things to write, but must defer till I see you face to face for want of time.

Let me be remembered to Father & Mother, Erastus & Jennet, & Annie I will never forget. How does the little girl* do on a great farm — can she feed a pig — milk a cow — or churn — good of her size. Sh'd like to see her & have a war or something — no matter what. If she would write a letter to me I would find time to answer it, if I have to take it out of my sleep & if she does not, I will send her a line full of fight as soon as election is over.

I rec'd Asa's letter & whether I answered or not I do not remember, if not, let him excuse me and write again. He will I know, because he is a good boy & cannot hold his temper long. As before said, this is for the family & if there is any quarrel about it I will deluge you with words on paper. Should like to have a

* Asa B. Richardson's wife, Annie. They were living temporarily at the old home in Jefferson.

line from all of you — This you know — and when I say it — you know it is no compliment merely.

Best regards to all

H. Richardson

67

Albert Richardson Esq.

Old Town, Maine

Jefferson, Oct. 16, 1854

Bro. Albert:

Your note of the 10th inst. was duly rec'd with the enclosed certificate for which am much obliged. I think I should not care to be teacher in Old Town High School "now-a-days" if I must be treated with a "Knock down" for offending the young "bloods". Where are the S. S. committee? Have they anything to do with schools?

You will see that I am taking up the different points in your letter as I there find them. The next is the Californian subject with James' advice, &c. You must settle the matter of duty with yourself. I feel that my own situation is quite different from yours. My health is good, much better, no doubt, than it would have been, had I been teaching up to this time. I am poor and actually need all I could honestly earn. Perhaps I could do more good there than I have or ever can, in this state, where my efforts to benefit others have been repaid by "sarcasm" and indifference. Besides my plans for life are so completely broken up that I feel like one "cut loose" from nearly every tie. I feel that my understanding is not bewildered by any dazzling prospect of gold - I think it is really horrid to spend one's life with the constant thought of gain.

Why should I not go? Can anyone say? I have no business to suffer, but few friends to regret my absence. James W. says he shall go the first of next month. I have been so busy at home that I have not seen him. He ask-

ed father a few days ago about you. Said you told him you would go to California if he did. Perhaps father did not hear correctly. I wish to go with him - but it is not yet certain that I can. There is but little time. Father has just come from the N. Village, & says Samuel J. Bond is quite sick today. James Whitham starts the 5th day of next month. I shall go and see him this afternoon. There is but one thing to hinder me from going - You know what it is, so there is no use in speaking of that.

Annie is washing today & "of course" looks like "Sancho" She has been very busy for two weeks past looking after the apples. "Eating" Tell James I was much obliged by his generous tender of the Revolvers. Everybody sends love to each & everybody.

Truly Asa B.

68

Mr. Albert Richardson

Old Town, Me.

Jefferson Oct 31, 1854

Bro. Albert,

I have just heard from you v.i.a. of Asa of whom I learn that you feel as though friends are scarce in Jefferson. But be assured that is not the case, you have yet warm friends in Jefferson. I rec'd yours & was glad to hear that you are in a revival of religion & felt while reading your letter as though you had gone there just in time to do good.

In relation to myself, my health is poor. I hardly get fairly over one sick spell before I have another but still I ought not to complain; God is better to me than I deserve. Business is quite good & has been since I came from Boston. Have had about as much as I could attend to most of the time. Uncle Jos. & Geo. have been

to Boston and are about getting up their goods. So I presume trade will fall off with me also. S. W. Jackson & Erastus have been to Boston and are just filling up. Said they saw James Y. was with him during their stay in Boston. There is nothing of special interest in Jefn.-at present a general time of health no one sick that I know of. Mr. Call & family (of which probily you have heard) have left Town & gone to Newhampshire. Harriet* was mutch opposed to going & we were sorry to have them go; they were all good citizens, good nabers, & good members of Church & Society. In relation to the state of religion, I should judge it is low. Things spiritually are a gloomy aspect at present. There is a great excitement among the advents in Washington (at branch bridge) the people are all under the most intence excitement. Tomorrow is the day they have set when they will see the Saviour with all his attendant Angels coming. The enthusiasm is so great that the most of the people in that vicinity have left off labor & become almost insane. The Church is all in commotion & it will be nothing strange if it will be entirely ruined. It is a most lamentable state of things. Bro. Tilley has (by the ergent solicitations of some of the brethren of that Church) consented to go there & preach to calm the troubled waters. We have a bible class numbering some 25. E. F. Weeks is teacher. We also have a class taking lessons on the Melodion by Miss Harrington from Damariscotta, numbering 10. Miss Harrington is a good player & singer & I should think a good instructor. There is some talk of a Singing School this winter. I hope you will come home in time to keep it. Little Albert is well & as busy as ever. He

* Harriet Bond.

fell a few days since & cut his face but I hope not to leave a scar. Emily sends her respects. Give our respects to all of our O. T. friends.

Yours Respectfully
S. J. Bond

69

Albert Richardson Esq.
Old Town Maine

Jefferson Nov. 4, 1854

Bro. Albert:-

Yours of the 26th also of the 20th ult. were duly rec'd. Intended to answer the former earlier - but we have been from town on a visit to Rev. Tuck & Kingsbury. Your friends have not forgotten you, though they may not have quite as much leisure to write just now, as at some other times.

S. J. Bond was sick but a day or two. He is doing very good business this fall. Saw your little boy standing in the door "crowing" at his "Unc. A.", last evening. Think he must have been well. I do not think much about Cala. just now as I have been very busy with other matters. I do not think James Whitham will return. His mind seems to change quite too often. The "folks" are all very well in Jefferson. Think there are many who would be very pleased to see you. Why do you ask me such questions? A little blue, are you? I know how to sympathize with you for I sometimes feel so myself. There is nothing very dangerous about that disease.

Yes, I know very well how it is in O. T. - but still think you are a great "gander" to sing your very life away - just for other people to croak at. Am pleased to hear that the Baptists are to have so fine a house.

In fact shall always be pleased to hear from Old Town - and of the prosperity of friends there. Hope you will continue to do a little "good." Hope the Reformation will continue and that Sister Salome may have faith to remove mountains. Give her and all other friends my love. Should love dearly to have a letter from her. Henry's respects duly received by "all hands" & "all hands" send back "Love".

Now for the other letter Oct. 20. — You must excuse the haste as I have only a moment. Other letters to send & it is time. The money was duly rec'd - Please accept thanks for your kind attention to my business. I do not know as I feel it a duty to go to Cala. I am quite in the dark as to duty. That generally comes in after one has made up his mind as to personal interest.

The Adventests are holding meetings constantly in Washington. They expect the Savior this afternoon at 3 o'clock. I am told, they are baptizing by force as those only can "go up" who are baptized. Rev. M. Tilley has been sent for to preach the Gospel to their excited minds.

The old Habitation looks white as chalk - but will grow whiter under another coat of zinc.

Have a letter from the Sec. of Corinth Academy offering me the Situation -but thought best to decline.

When there last week, Rev. K. seemed to think there might be a chance for you in the other Bank. Geo Weeks has also spoken to me about it. Thad - wished to know what you could be hired for &c. Had you not better write to Hon. Thad Weeks?

A. B. Richardson

If I hear more about the Damariscotta chance, I will write.

Mr. Albert Richardson
Old Town Maine
Brother Albert,

Jefferson Nov. 28, 1854

I thought that as you did not see fit to write me, I would try to write you so I will try & see what I can make out. Is it because you think I am not worthy of a passing notice or is it a press of business? A great part of my time I do not feel as though I was deserving the notice of christians, much less of God.

Asa got a letter from you last week. He said he had not had time to answer your letter. He wished me to say to you that he would write you as soon as he got an opportunity. He & his wife left yesterday. She for Waterville, he for Onondaga Valley. He has gone there in expectation of stopping. He received a letter last Saturday stating that a teacher was wanting in an academy at that place. The trustees say they have expended about 6000\$ in repairs & additions to their library & apparatus: They say that they have spared no pains to make it one of the first schools in N. Y. They would rather let the school and let teacher have the tuition. For the last 3 years it has payed \$1150.00 clear. They will do that or give a salary from \$600.00 to \$800.00 per annum. They said they would not engage a man until they saw him for the present man they engaged from his testimonials and got deceived, whereby if they had seen him should not have employed him.

Celinda Kincaid has got a husband and gone away. I have seen her since the sabbath school closed. She appeared to think that it was very essential to seek the saviour now. Had seen times when she thought she was willing to have religion in Gods way. Then again she thinks that the pride of heart keeps her from forsaking the world and throwing herself entirely into the arms

of Christ. She called to see me as she was going to her new home. I asked her to write me if she got an evidence that she was a christain. She said she would: but I have not got the letter yet but hope I shall. Warren Ames thinks that he has a faint hope that he is a new man.

Give my respects to all friends. Come home as soon as you can for we want to see you & you are needed. Write on the receipt of this

Yours Respectfully
E. F. Weeks

71

Albert Richardson Esq.

Old Town Maine

Sunday Evening Dec. 17, 1854

Bro. Albert,

I have just returned from meeting where we have been favored with a discourse from our good Bro Tilley to a full house who listened attentively but no one had a word to say after the sermon & a pressing invitation given by the preacher who (v.i.a.) is greatly discouraged & I presume almost ready to sink under existing state of things in the church. The trouble between J. T. Weeks & Wm. Jones is no more settled now than it was 6 months ago. The committee have had session after session & meeting after meeting but all to no purpose. Mr. Tilley had laboured almost night & day & still I learn they remain stubborn and unyielding & I don't know but it will be the means of rending the church assunder. I wish you were here. We have not had our Church meeting yet which should have taken place some 4 weeks since hoping difficulties might be healed. I hope you will be here before that takes place.

Little Albert has been with us to meeting this evening & behaved like a little man. He has just gone to bed & suspended his prattle for the night. He talks a good deal about Papa Rich. & says he has gone to Old Town. I presume you want to see him - who wonders if you do, I don't.

I should have written you before had I not expected you home last week & should this reach you any length of time before leaving O. T., please write on its recpt. So good night.

Yours,

S. J. Bond

Note—The letters do not reveal the cause of this quarrel, but it is evident that these two members of the church were engaged in a controversy which they would not or could not settle amicably. In such cases it was regarded the duty of the church to exercise its disciplinary authority, in which the minister, the church officers, and the church as a whole had a part. Should the principals in the disagreement fail to heed the recommendations of the church, one or both might be dropped from the roll of church members.

There was bound to be a division of opinion in such cases leading to acrimonious discussions and endangering the influence or even the life of the church itself. It is not difficult to understand that Mr. Tilley would be much disturbed by his failure to bring about a reconciliation.

72

Friend Richardson,

Just as this epistle is going into government hands I am invited to back it and being called upon the spur of the moment, and being badly curled up with the cold I shall do nothing but scratch a little. I hope you will be here soon - as Brother George Weeks of Wood Head Fellowship, has a firkin of eggs well packed in bran in his cellar ready to feed a select company - when you return. Now hurry or the eggs will hurt. He has his

commission and I have translated the latin in it for him where it says "Dedimus Potestatem" which I tell him means "treat his friends."

We have not much news here and what we have I suppose Samuel has sent you. Old Lady Bond has an attack of Apoplexy and perhaps may not recover.

I have taken up something this winter instead of getting married which I have given up. Hope to see you here soon. Will you write if you do not come here soon.

Give my respects to Blanchard. My fingers are so cold I can hardly bend them.

Yours truly

T. F. Barton

P. S. I have a barrel of cider. Henry's ship is just launched.

73

Albert Richardson Esq.

Jefferson Maine Waterville Sunday Dec. 31, 1854

Dear Brother Albert,

I take the earliest opportunity to wish you and all the family a "Happy New Year." Your interesting letter arrived on Wednesday with one from Asa as van, and Henry as rear guard. Asa, as I understood it, threatened to leave where he was, and as you may imagine my spirits were not at the highest pitch and something cheering was needed and very gladly received. I received another from Asa last night. He seemed to write in a somewhat different strain, as he vibrates from going to staying so often that I never know what is coming next, but he can stay if he will. The school is called the Carroll Park Female Academy. He takes charge of the Male Academy which has been recently added and is not yet named. I think he said

it was a fine new block with stone front five stories high fronting what will be Carroll Park. Mr. Overacre gives him half or he is to take the boys. He prefers the latter. He has been able to pay his expenses thus far which is doing better than I expected. I advised him to stay by all means, if he did not have but four scholars, even if he did not get enough to pay his board, and do his best. People must look ahead if they would succeed, it is no profit but an actual loss to take a situation like that in Old Town, the pay is good for the time, but you know in the natural course of events that a change of agents leaves you but one chance in a hundred of remaining. I was extremely sorry that he even chose the profession of a teacher. I said all I could in favor of medicine but no. Then I wanted him to take a situation in Portland where it would take more than the arbitrary will of one man to turn him out, no again, and the same man who did take it has \$850 a year. Now he is not far from where he was when he left College. I do hope he will succeed where he is the location is very desirable in many respects, it is healthy and one of the pleasantest in Brooklyn. I have met with so many disappointments lately that I have but little hope left. I suppose they told you about our going to Onondaga Valley "What a fall was there my countrymen," Then I was wrapped in thorns from fear that he had not gone to Brooklyn and the letter was a week coming on account of the snow - and he has told me nothing to speak of, in regard to the school until this week. I waited as long as I could, hardly daring to ask, fearing he had got into some place he was ashamed of, but 'twas mere carelessness. Then I began and asked questions enough to last sometime, and got my answer too, viz. Mr. O. is a very clever man, very sanguine, a "leettle" touch of the visionary. His wife is a

pleasant, very aspiring woman who wants a great deal of money and knows how to make it fly; sometimes she assists her husband in the school but does not like to. Miss Dimond teacher of Painting is another Rosanna. I am somewhat alarmed on account of the small pox and am very sorry not to have been vaccinated in Jefferson. There are but few cases but one of them was one of the Academy Teachers so there is no knowing who may have it.

Yours ever,

Annie C. R.

74

Albert Richardson Esq.

Jefferson Maine

Brooklyn, N. Y. Jan'y 6, 1855

Dear Bro. Albert:-

Your very kind favor of the 3rd inst. in behalf of father, was duly rec'd this afternoon and I hasten to acknowledge its safe arrival with enclosed money. Say to father, that, with hat under my arm, I make him my best bow, and tender him my most sincere thanks for his very timely aid and encouragement. A kind word is sometimes worth more to me, than all the gold in California, had I the whole of it. I do not think I care very much for money, perhaps some would say that I hold it too lightly. Certainly I do not wish to live with that one thing in view, and that alone, viz., the accumulation of money. But it does seem to me that Brooklyn is a good place for a teacher to make money after he has got himself established. This necessarily must take some time for a stranger in a place as large as this, for this city now has over 200,000 inhabitants and is one of the large cities of our republic. As yet I have not opened a school for myself.

Mr. Overacre seems very much inclined to have me take hold with him, while I grow more and more inclined to strike out something new for myself. I now have charge of the boys, (first class) department and like the young gents very much. There were but six when I took the class, but now we have nine, though there has been no advertising, and but few know anything of the school. So far I have taken no responsibility and am to have my board for what I do. I am employed from 9 A.M. till half past two P. M. That is about the usual length of schools here. Our present location is one of the pleasantest and most healthy in Brooklyn though it is not at all central, still there are scholars enough all about us. Mr. O. finds it quite difficult to collect just now as everyone, here in New York, has quite as much as he can to to live - times are so hard. Everyone is hoping for a change soon. Brooklyn is very properly styled the "city of churches" for they abound here and are "filled" by such men as Henry W. Beecher, Dr. Taylor, Bap. Dr. Vinton, Ep. - I go to hear Beecher, for he is known by that name here, & Dr. Taylor most of the time. I wish you could hear Henry W. B. I called on him New Years Day, and saw his wife & family. He is very pleasant to strangers. Also called on Dr. Taylor & found him even more pleasant in private than in public. There are lectures every evening & frequently two or three of them within twenty minutes walk. We have had no sleighing and are not likely to have.

I rec'd a letter from you just as I was leaving Jef. & had no time to answer but requested Annie to do so, also requested to write you as soon as she arrived at Wat. which I presume was done.

Please keep me informed in regard to matters in Jef. & at the old Habitation. Send me a paper when

convenient. Please pass father the note & oblige.

Excuse my haste this time & I will do better hereafter.

Yours truly,
Asa B.

Love to all.

75

Albert Richardson Esq.

Jefferson Maine

Brooklyn, April 2, 1855

Dear Bro. Albert:-

In looking over my letters today, I find yours of the 27th of Feb. among my unanswered. Now this is a great sin, not that I found your letter, but that so kind and good a letter should have been so long unanswered. You must pardon me, Albert, and I know you would if you could know just how I have been situated. Still I might have found time to thank you for your kind wishes and ought to have done so: but when I have had the time my mind has frequently been in such a state that I have felt that I could not. O how much I have wished for some one to whom I could talk freely.

Tuesday April 10, 1855

Yours of the 5th, I received yesterday when on my way to Rahway, N. J., to look after some business for James, so could not answer yesterday. You will see I commenced a letter to you some time ago, but I cannot now tell whether yours of Feb. 27, was answered or not. I will now leave this & answer your questions.

I did like the apothecary business very much - I was with H. & J. over two years and understand the business as far as it was carried on by them; but were I to have the charge of a regular one, (for theirs I do not consider such,) should want some few weeks experience under a regular apothecary - say here in N. Y.

I do not understand all the technical terms of M. D's for they belong alone to that profession. The "Dispensatory" and medical dictionary are necessary companions for apothecaries as well as doctors.

I have no engagements at present. I was told last week that Mr. Overacre was collecting the bills & if I did not look out I would have to pay my own board bill and get nothing from the school. This was told me by a member of Mr. O.'s own Church. He gave up house-keeping some four weeks ago & since that time I have been boarding with Mr. Merwin, a very pleasant family from Conn. When he gave up house keeping he told me he intended to go away from B. & c. I was to have the school - Finding this state of things, in regard to his collecting the bills, I told him, he must decide what he would do. Well he said if he must he would pay all bills, my board up to Sat. last and pay me what money he had borrowed & take the school. Anything for a settlement - & I took him up, & he was to pay over last Sat. but has not done so. Perhaps he cannot. Is not this very pleasant? O how it makes me doubt. May God forgive -

I called on some few of the parents Saturday evening to tell them why I should not be in the school Monday. They were very much surprised, supposing the school was mine, and desired me to open one immediately saying I should have the scholars & influence. That is the way matters stand here. I have made nothing. The parents evidently wish very much to have me remain & Mr. O.'s conduct will only be for my advantage. If nothing more promising turns up in a very few days, I think I shall open a school for myself on the 2nd of May or sooner if I can get ready. If you would like to have me go into business knowing my extreme poverty, I will answer Yes! to your last ques-

tion - but should wish to know immediately what you may conclude, so I can give up all ideas of school & devote myself to medecine.

Yours

Asa Bond R

I saw Waters Sr.* He only laughs at me because I have been so used by Mr. O. He thinks he could do very well by you would you only come out here. Says he made \$1500 clear last week. Loud talk! He would want you to bring your money I presume. I negotiated a trade for a piano for S. G. Oakes - but shall not send it till I hear from James. Had a letter from N. Y. a few days ago - all is well in O. Know Nothings had done as they chose! A letter from Annie has just come - she is in Portland - Well &c.

Give my best love to Parents, Sisters & Brothers. Excuse haste & burn this.

Asa B. R.

76

Albert Richardson Esq.
Jefferson, Maine

Brooklyn, May 2/55
4 o'clock Wed. Eve.

Dear Bro. Albert:-

How do you all do at the Old Home of my childhood? How very much I would like to be there tonight and see our dear Parents, brothers and sisters, all! and hear once more those familiar voices, sweeter to affections ear than all the ravishing charms of music. Give my love to all the family. Tell our parents that Asa B. is often with them in spirit, and, though he does not write, it is only because he cannot.

* Horace Waters (b. Jefferson, Nov. 1, 1812) manufactured the Horace Waters piano.

I have had quite a severe time since I came to N. Y. — but I hope it has not been wholly lost upon myself. The way of transgressors should be made hard, that they may be made to feel and know truly that God is omnipotent.

Your last kind favor is not before me as I left it in my school-room. I asked Annie to respond as I was so much engaged that I could not. I am working early & late. It is no small task to start a school in a large city and that too without money.

After I got a settlement with Mr. Overacre, I took rooms for a school of my own and was just ready to open when I was thrown out of them, (so to speak,) and had to take a whole house at \$300 rent or give up the ship. I took the house and rented part for \$160., and have fine rooms for my school & still room for another small family. Today I opened with 9 scholars. Expect eleven tomorrow. Have none that are far advanced. They pay from \$6.00 to \$10.00. I hope to do well yet. I see no reason why I shall not. But I need some money. I could get along very well if I could only get what is due me here.

Friends here seem to think I am doing finely. May God bless them for their kindness.

I told H. Waters what you said, & he requested me to tell you to come out & bring your money. Says he can give you a place where you can make \$1000, per year, &c. Brooklyn is very pleasant & healthy. If you think of coming out here, why not come with Annie? I expect her quite soon. Excuse me for not writing earlier and let me hear from you & home soon. I would like to see you, for I have many things to say. Must write to J. Y. this night also, though I am very tired. Ordered a piano for S. G. Oakes, Sat. & have not yet

sent the bills to James. Write! Remember me in your prayers. In haste, I remain

Yours truly,

Asa B.

77

Albert Richardson Esq.

Jefferson, Me.

Old Town May 7, 1855

Bro Albert

I wrote you long time ago have not herd from you yet. I want a clerk Sam is gowing away would you like to have the place if so let me know and what wages you will come for and all about it.

Suppose you are in Jefferson yet as I have not herd from you. Had a letter from Asa by todays mail he has opened a school in Brooklyn he appeers to be in good Spirets. I have been to Boston and the goods have got along. I think we shall have a fair business this season. We are all well I am at work like a beaver.

Respects to All

Yours

J. Y. Richardson

Write on rect of this be sure.

Lots of Girls sed tell him to come.

78

Albert Richardson Esq.

Old Town, Maine

Town Clerk's Office, Jefferson

May 10, 1855

Friend Richardson,

I have found Mr. Bond writing to you this morning and conclude to put in a line myself by way of Post-script. I have just returned from Commencement — where I had a glorious time. Saw lots of old friends

and some young ones. Some fair, some unfair, some wedded and some unwedded. The damsels all emitted an odor — but I am glad to say it was of cologne and musk. Every one I encountered reminded me of stirring up a muskrat. But I kept cool — as they are worth nothing in summer months.

I saw your Belcher with Kellock but did not get his acquaintance. They are much alike — very wild to be in the clergy. Did not see John Blanchard, was sorry too.

I rec. your letter some time ago and was much pleased to hear from you, and hope to be favored again by you — quite soon.

We have a new Sail Boat here, built by H. K. Bond and J. Richardson. It is a fine one — I named it the Flirt, but the girls have come down on me hard, and pretend to dislike it. I have sailed once in it. Miss Young was present, as one of the party, and seemed much pleased with a fresh water sail. We got heaps of lilies, and some wet, but kept cool to the end. The said lady is fair to behold, like many others. Whence she came — or whither she went, I can not say.

Oliver Gray graduated — did well. I am acquainted with him. He teaches in Houlton Academy this fall. He is called a fine fellow — but of the highest rank as a scholar.

Things are the same as usual in Old Jefferson. The births are numerous. It is not for me to say who has been born and who is going to be. All I can say is that a smashing business has been done — and is to be done yet.

My carrot patch looks well — Shall expect some.

I would say some things in reply to the items of your letter but I have not it here and cannot now

remember the contents of it in particular.

You are at liberty to mention my name in connection with any lady, young (or Old), provided she be respectable.

Well I do not think of much more to say so, begging your pardon for this dry performance, I will close.

Yours truly

T. F. Barton

Emily* dictates, I write

She says I am insane, because I ride with Miss Robinson and other ladies. She has heard that you are about to commit matrimony and she would like to know if it is so — (Write)

Cider is plenty — I have a barrel and Emily 2 gallons. Faces are getting red. Thanksgiving is close by and the geese and hens, are already marked out. This household spends the day with E. F. Weeks Esq. Albert wants you to bring his little drum.

Emily has a rocking chair all fitted up for me to lie in this winter. You would be welcome here a short time if not longer

Your worthy father has lost a gallon of molasses by the bail of his pail giving out.

As Emily has run out of news; I will close up.

T. F. Barton for Emily Bond

79

Albert Richardson Esq.

Old Town, Maine

Jefferson June 2, 1855

Bro Albert,

In answer to your request and according to my promise, I imbrace the present opportunity to fulfill

* Mrs. S. J. Bond.

the same. Probily you feel anxious by this time to hear from home & learn the particulars in relation to the Baptism &c. in which you took so much interest.

I had a pleasent ride to Bangor. Stoped Tuesday night with Geo. Stilkey (who v.i.a. particularly asked for you & thought quite strange that you had not called on him when in Bangor) took the Stemer Daniel Webster at 5 next morning. Arrived at Rockland 12 past 10 A. M., took dinner with Leander, gave Wm. three dollars to transport me to Jefferson. So ended my journey to Old Town. On arriving home I learned that the Baptism had been defered untill the next Sunday. Sunday came & with it a variety of events. The funeral of Mr. Joseph Jackson (who died Thursday morning,) took place at the meeting-house in the forenoon. Sermon by Mr. Tilley and a good one. The house was crowded to its utmost and I learned that there was some fifty who could not git in. After the forenoon meeting closed and the funeral procession left for the grave, the people moved in a body to the water — the largest number I ever saw on a like occasion. Those baptized were as follows: Viz.

George M. Wright & wife, Rebecca & Ann Hofses, Sarah Bond, Sarah Kennedy, Sarah Wright, Gloria Haskell & Amanda Jackson.

After baptism, returned to the house* and those who had been baptised joined the Church, received the right hand of fellowship. So far things passed off pleasantly. But sad the change. As the people were leaving Uncle Isaac Hofses' horse took fright ran down the meeting-house hill with himself aunt and Ann in the wagon. Ran up against Abial Bond's wagon containing himself wife and Alexander throwing them all

* Church.

out in a heap smashing wagons and bruising heads at a great rate. He next ran into Henry's wagon containing myself & Emily throwing us about Six feet, horse draged me about two rods & stoped. Abial was badly hurt so that he had no knowledge of anything that took place for several days but is giting better. Alexander, head and leg badly burised, but doing well. Sarah got her wrist pritty badly hurt but is mending. Aunt Hofses said she was not much hurt at the time but I learn she is very laim. Uncle Isaac, Ann, Emily & myself got off not much hurt. Lucky we.

Monday June 4th

A few words more & I will close this epistle — In relation to our Damariscotta business nothing new, no prospect of doing any thing at present. Dr. Coll has bought the mortgage on that Gliden lot that we talked of buying unless they take it up it will be all day with that. Business is dull enough here. Uncle Jo. has been to Boston & filled up his store. S. W. Jackson has also been & I guess filled up pritty strong. Goods come marked Jackson & Weeks. Nothing more that is new that I think of. Folks all well. Tell Dea. Hopkins the news in relation to the baptism.

Our respects to all friends, particularly Emily & Bubs.

Write on recpt.

Yours

S. J. Bond

80

Mr. Albert Richardson

Old Town, Me.

Friend Richardson

Jefferson July 5, 1855

Mr. Bond has requested me to write you a line to help make out a letter to you, as his brain tires out as

soon as half a sheet is completed. The duties of town clerk so encroach on his time — that he has but little leisure for epistolary inter-views with his friends. He has published* one pair and Emily another — in the space of four months, but as they now have their hands in, as we say, it is thought that they will now be able to give a “card to misery” as often as once a month. Their haying is all done but their potatoes are not up — except what were washed up on the surface in the rain. My carrots are doing well, and if I get a good crop — I care little for practice hereafter.

Today I have visited a school, and saw much of the “awful sublime” in the mistress and my hand trembles even now on account of it. It is not from smoking.

My health is quite good this summer, much better than in the winter.

I have no news, either social, political or medical. Perhaps I may make an exception under the head of the last, by saying that Dr. Putnam was called to a case of colic in a young lady not long since, which he could not help — but a regular M.D. came to his help and scared up a baby in half an hour. Dr. P. said he thought it was colic because the girl said so. Now doctors must not credit all they hear.

The ladies have a sewing circle here, but it will blow up soon in all probability, as Emery Jones has fallen out with it. No gentlemen attends but the minister. I have been blackballed, but shall survive.

I think of going to the circus at Waldoboro — as several of our villagers will attend, to give character to the audience.

The Fourth was celebrated at Elbridge Weeks Corner. One toast was drunk — viz. “Short Life to the

* Issued a marriage certificate.

Know Nothings" Drank in silence — so many ignorant ones were present that each one thought it was meant for himself.

The story is that Frank Bond is married. I think it all well, as she is so old — that chances will soon be scarce.

Politics will run high this fall in these parts; if John Long drives the Know Nothings from town, I will give you my Post Office Address, when I get settled.

George Weeks is making the most out of his office — is gone most of the time. He has had the Board on to view the road in front of his house and thinks of going to Wiscasset to live if selected.

I have written in great haste so you must excuse the manner and matter. I make no apologies for penmanship. Let me hear from you soon — without fail.

My respects to Blanchard. Tell him I have been to Commencement.

Yours truly,

Thomas F. Barton

81

Albert Richardson Esq.

Old Town, Maine

Jefferson Aug. 10" 1855

Dear Brother,

Thinking perhaps a few words from a friend in Jefferson would be acceptable I devote a few moments in answer to your last. I should have written you before this time had it not been that I learned from Erastus that he wrote you a short time since. Probily he told you all the news up to that time.

In relation to your inquiries in your last, those who got thrown from their wagons have got smart except

Sarah Bonds (Abiel's wife) is which I understand is yet quite lame not able to do any labor. In relation to Erastus, I presume you learned by his last letter that he had moved from the mountain and whether or not he is yet happy. Your father has been very lame this summer but I understand is better at present. Emily & little Albert was up and made them a visit a short time ago who said they inquired particularly if we had heard from you & was anxious to receive a letter. Your father took them into the garden that you planted & particularly noticed the papers that you stuck in a split stick to designate the different Vegetables &c. I guess they are getting along finely. In relation to Bro. Tilley he is getting along about as usual, preaches as good sermons as ever he has gone to Waterville to attend the Commencement.

In regards to the progress of the reformation, as far as I can judge from external appearances it has come to a full stop. The religious interest in Jefferson is decidedly low. But perhaps I am not a fit subject to judge for I feel so little interest myself. Feel most of the time destitute of feeling without any knowledge of the way of life & Salvation. Do but little religious duty from the fact that what I do attempt is done with so little interest that I feel as though it is an abomination in the sight of my Maker. But such is the case, I wish it was otherwise —

Lot M. Weeks is failing, probably can't stand it but a short time. The rest of the folks in Jefferson are well. Mrs. Wm. Jones, Mrs. Alfred Bessee & Mrs. L. M. Weeks, have recently given birth to a Baby so you see that Jefferson in some respects is yet a prolific place. The Dr. has just stepped in & says he will also write so I will forbear & give him a chance.

Emily sends her best respects & also does little Albert send his. Excuse imperfections do for this is done in great haste. I presume the Dr. will tell you about Boats & Pond Lilies &c.

Perhaps he will not mention Miss Young from Waldoboro who was here & went on a sail last Monday.

Give my respects to all down East friends.

Yours,

S. J. Bond

82

Albert Richardson Esq.

Old Town, Maine

Jefferson Nov. 14, 1855

Friend Richardson,

As Mr. Bond will send you a line I also will send one too, since we both can scarcely get up a good letter. I have been owing you a favor this way for some time and can let it pass unacknowledged no longer. My business has been good this fall — but is dropping off now. I don't mean that my patients are dropping off but my business is (a very little). I allow but few to die. Alden Kennedy has been confined to the house for eight weeks with rheumatic inflammation of the ankle joint. We have much fear that he will have a long time of it yet — and are not certain about its termination, whether it will spoil the joint or not. He is my patient. Dr. Kennedy and Dr. Robie have seen him with me.

Miss Robinson has a good class in music — so they say. She appears to be a fine girl. Bears acquaintance well and is not over given to calico, and the like. We get along well together. Emily lets me go to see her as often as I want to i. e. several times a day — but I learn no music. I am incorrigibly dull in things musical. I have a certain fondness for the living musical instruments, aside from the melody they make.

As to Young things, I see them occasionally, and think well of them. We had a fine sail with them — and got so talkative with them to the neglect of the rest of the company, that the folks bore down so hard on them for the intimacy, that it got a manifest shyness of me — evinced on several occasions, where the eager multitude was looking on. But I am a harmless fellow.

I would like much to see you, to have a talk — and some jokes. This will be a dull winter, and I shall suffer for want of company.

I shall sleep by a fire this winter — I am to get a stove. Dont want a living warming pad yet. I go for artificial heat — a little longer.

Some say I am courting, Miss R. — some Miss Y. — and Otis says Dr. Barton would marry Sarah Kennedy if the Bonds would let him!!! I think the Bonds ought to let me do as I please.

Now excuse all this nonsense and do not consider me a fool for a little folly. Meantime let me have a line from you, which will be most welcome.

Confidentially I don't believe Grey or Oakes will do anything in Warren more than you will. Oakes is a case of "wind" and Grey's is a case of "get all" (on his part) so I have been told.

Yours truly

T. F. Barton

83

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson, Maine

Brooklyn, Feb. 20, 1856

Dear Brother Albert:-

Good evening Bro. How do you & all the good friends in Jefferson do tonight. Wish I could spend an evening at the "old home" & have all there. In the

beginning let me say you must excuse my fast talk as I have but a few moments to speak & much to say, or at least — much that I could say.

I have not forgotten that you wrote last, nor has it been negligence on my part that you have not had an earlier answer, but my time has been so taken up that I hardly find time for sleep. I might have written some Sunday but do not feel that that is the day for writing letters, though I have sometimes done so. So I hope you will pardon me.

We have no servants — so are obliged to serve ourselves. We rise about seven, have breakfast at eight or a little before, & commence school at 9 o'clock. The scholars commence coming by eight & one room, at least, must be in perfect order by that time & well warmed. Since this cold weather, (for we are having some down East weather here this Winter,) commenced we are obliged to keep the fires all night or have them on by 6 in the morning. The school keeps us both busy till three, & frequently till four P. M. — then there are the halls & rooms to be cleaned; for 29 boys will bring in some dirt; — something must be got to eat & someone must purchase that something. Then there are calls to be made and some rec'd for you must be attentive to patrons. Then the bills are to be made out & collected, books to be selected & purchased for we furnish nearly all school books — weekly reports to be made of the absences, tardinesses, dismissions, recitations perfect & imperfect, deportment &c., of each scholar. All these, to go with washing, mending, (when there is a possible chance,) looking over lessons, correcting, reading, for one must be up with the time in a fast city where even the boys take the daily papers & expect their teacher to explain everything they may find that looks in the least dark — paying bills, pur-

chasing for the house & school, & now & then a little for ourselves; — all these & a thousand un-named things thake up one's time. If we can retire at 11 & 12, we are fortunate, for we frequently work until one & two in the morning. Now, if you do not believe we are busy, just come out & we will put you into the work in earnest. We are resolved not only to succeed, but to merit success.

As ever I remain

Yours,

Asa B.

I left this a few moments & when I came back found the other side occupied. Why not come to N. Y. & see the great cities & make us a visit, bringing your musical chart &c. Should like to have my boys learn music. I do nothing in that line because I have so many other things to attend to.

Remember me in love to dear Parents, Sisters, Bro. — all. Write often & know you shall have answers promptly whenever it is possible. Was very sorry to hear that Father had been so lame & that Parents were alone. It must not be so. It is not fitting.

A. B. R.

Dear Albert —

Asa began this to ask you to come out here, with other things, but I see he has not committed himself. I invite you with a Macedonian cry. "Come over and help us." Our last quarter of beef is going fast, but a man in the pork business owes us 20 or 30 dollars worth, so come, you wont starve and there is no knowing how much good you may do in the aid and comfort line. You won't have a better chance to see the elephant, and he

is here now. If you come by the Sound, they will land you on one end of the broad way, but you must take the narrow path toward the East to find our Jerusalem. Come, bring Honne's Introduction with you, and the Commentaries. If we can get you Scholars in music we will.

Write soon and let us know, when you will come. Love to all.

In haste
A. C. Richardson

85

Mr. Justus Richardson

Jefferson, Me.

Old Town, March 4, 1856

Father Mother Brothers & Sisters

Rejois with me for I believe Angels in Heaven rejois over Sinners when they repent. Rejois with me for I hope I have repented and found Jesus present to my soul. I hope he pardoned me Wednesday Eve. Wasn't he kind to spair me so long and then call me to repent. Pray for me all that God will sustain and give me grace to know and to do his will. My Prayer is that he will help me carry out my good purpose. The work of the Lord is going on here. I hope & pray that it will continue and that this place will be known as a place of piety. On the next page I will give you an account of this great work.

Names of those that think their sins are pardoned: Mr. Pierce & wife, Harry Smith & wife, John T. Davis, his daughter, Nancy Rowell. Perhaps other and last of all poor me thank the Lord. Yesterday morn I went to tell Aunt Salome what God had done for me. Henry was present, I told it before him. I hope he is all most persuaded to be a christian. I will do my duty with him.

Capt. Perce was just in he will write Albert today. Mr. Belcher will write. People inquire where is Albert why dont he come. I have been looking for him.

We have been well I hardly know what I have written but must close.

May God bless you as I have been.

Yours

J. Y. Richardson

86

Albert Richardson, Esq.
Old Town, Maine

Brooklyn Aug. 26/56
Tuesday Morn.

Bro. Albert:-

Friends at Old Town will be expecting to hear from me immediately on my arrival home, and you will be so kind as to let them know that we are well. I got home Sat. morn. about 6 o'clock & found Annie was expecting me at that very time. You can never "steal a march" on her, for she knows "by instinct" when a friend is coming.

We had quite a foggy, windy, rainy time from Bangor to Boston, so much so that the boat "raft" was put into Seal cove: where we remained several hours. There was a very great manifestation of the want of a "Maine Law," together with card playing, profane language, &c.

No money, save \$4.50 was paid in while I was away, so I must spend my time in debtor visits. Detestable business! The news yesterday from Kansas was very sad. War! The bloody issue began! Murder! It would seem that the Border Ruffians have occupied the best military points in Kansas and erected block-houses, with the avowed intention of making a descent upon the Free State Men, of murdering them or driving

them from the territory. Plundering, robbing and murdering the Free State Men, they have at last goarded them to fight for freedom with any power that may seek to enslave them. The soldiers of the "Slave Legion" have been attacked in their strongholds and many of them driven from the Territory. "Retaliation"!

Some reports say that Gov. Robinson, Deitzler, Brown, Smith, Williams, Jenkins & other "imprisoned heroes", have been set at liberty, & that too, without firing a gun. If this is the case, they were without doubt allowed to escape by the U. S. troops. "What will be the end of all this?"

Several cases of Yellow fever in our city last week — Some excitement. Let me hear from Maine soon. Love to "all"!

Very truly, Your Brother,
Asa B. (Richardson)

87

Albert Richardson Esq.

Old Town, Maine

Jefferson Sept. 17, 1856

Bro. Albert:

I had almost come to the conclusion that you had forgotten your friends in Jefferson, but at last the long looked for letter arrived. Politics in Jefferson has been the topic of conversation for the last six weeks. The fever ran high. The Wild Cats spared neither time nor money to secure a Rep.*, in this town; but they got knocked higher than a kite. For a week before election the whole of the Wiscassett Artillery was aimed at us but we stood fire. We had Mr. Baker from Augusta & Mr. Lawrey from Kansas to speak in behalf

* Representative to the Maine state legislature.

of freedom to a full & enthusiastic house, interspersed with songs by Mrs. J. S. Ames & others which told on the minds of the people. On Thursday before election, the Wild Cats announced a Mr. Wright from Boston & Mr. Gould from Thomaston who was going to annihilate the black Republicans. They pitched into the Clergy, into the black Republican, the K. N's, & the Morrill dynasty.

We started for Waldoboro that night to secure Ex. Gov. Kent, who was to speak at Waldoboro that night, to speak the next afternoon. The next morning we notified the people & got out a full house of Ladies & Gents. Gov. Kent gave us a rousing speech which nailed the tender ones fast on the Hamlin ticket. The Republicans went into it on Monday morning with a will & elected Wm. Weeks over Emery Boynton by 60 majority.

We have a splendid double reed Serophime in the meeting house. Cost \$150. A Gentleman from Nashua N. H. set it up & played one Sunday. I guess we were wise to buy it. Clara Haskell plays it and does very well.

John T. has got the School house most completed & I expect there will be a time before it is accepted. Dr. Carter has moved into his (or Uncle Joe's new house.)

Little Albert goes to private School taught by Elmira Wilson. He is a smart little fellow, I tell you. Your father & mother are well.

Emily sends Respects to you & all our friends in Old Town. Give them mine also.

Write on recpt of this & not delay.

Yours Respectfully,

S. J. Bond

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Old Town, Maine

Jefferson Dec. 29, 1856

Bro. Albert:

Yours of the 22 came duly to hand & in answer I hardly know what to write but presume most anything from your native town will be acceptable. You said in your last letter that you were very anxious to hear from the sick people in Jefferson especially your Father & Mother. Dr. Barton, Emily & Little Albert have been up to see them the afternoon (Sunday) Emily can tell you better than I, will leave them for her. Mrs. Geo Weeks (the nature of whose sickness you have been apprised by Dr. Barton) (Insanity) is no better. Hers is truly a distressing case.

Religious interest I should judge is low. I attended the prayer meeting this eve which was quite interesting. Bro. Besse preached quite a Sermon. We had a full meeting today. Elder Bartlett discourses very well for an Old Man but he is not Mr. Tilley.

Business is dul & times hard so I will close & give Emily a chance.

S. J. Bond

My Dear Brother,

I will just say a few words. I received your kind letter, was very glad to hear from you. Thought then, that I should sit down and write you a long letter, but since Caroline* has been so sick, I have been obliged to be there a great deal, and have not given myself time to write to any of my friends so I trust you will excuse me. A great part of the time I have only done

* Caroline Weeks (Mrs. George Weeks), Mrs. Emily Bond's cousin.

what we could not get along without & then gone up there & helped take care of her which is the hardest work that I ever did. I hope she will soon get well but see no prospect of it now.

I called up to see your Father & Mother this afternoon, found them very comfortable, the old gentleman was quite cheerful says he has gained 20 lbs in 2 weeks — can eat as much beef & pork as anybody. His lameness troubles him considerable yet. Your mother is pretty well, her finger is getting nicely. They have Wm. Linscott & Sarah Richardson there, so you see they are well provided for. Little Albert was very happy to go and see Grand-father & Grand-mother. Your mother asked him if he would not stay all night he said, yes if mother will. He is well and as good as can be expected considering who had had the training of him. I think he would learn quick if he could stop long enough. Can sing some. He says mother I want you to tell father Richardson, if he is going to bring me anything, I wish he would bring me a top. He wants to see you very much. I would like to finish this page but have not time.

Come soon. I am glad the Dea. is coming with you.

Your friend,

Emily (Mrs. S. J. Bond)

90

Albert Richardson Esq.

Old Town, Maine

Jefferson March 19, 1857

Bro. Albert,

Soon after you left Jefferson I received a short letter which closed by saying more soon. I have waited for more soon, but it has not yet arrived. So I take this opportunity to drop you a line, thinking, perhaps you

would like to hear from the great town of Jefferson.

Home Matters. I had my Office broken into about two weeks since & had taken from the drawer about \$30, cant tell definitely, might have been \$40. It was done in the evening while I was at Singing School — have not got on the track of it yet probily never shall. We were at Augusta last week went over Friday & back Saturday. Had a first rate time. The Rockland folks are making a desperate effort to make Rockland half-Shire. The Waldoboro folks are struggling to make Waldoboro the Shire town of Lincoln. I guess they will let it remain this year as it is. I have got the western fever badly, don't hardly know how to shape my course — Want to go very much. Ambrose Weeks, his Mother & John Gray start the first of May, so I understand. That is a great Country, no mistake. Emily's health is poor at present. Little Albert is well as usual with the exception of his humor which troubles him some. Mrs. Geo Weeks, soon after you left, was taken as bad as she had ever been. They have to keep her confined the most of the time. Silas Oliver, Samuel Jones, Isaac Dearing, Henry Hussey & Elbridge Sherman, have gone to California. Andrew Sproul and Family have also gone. Quite a deligation from Jefferson.

The Damariscotta Folks almost worship Mr. Belcher. Say his Congregation has increased from 150 to 400, since he come there. They talk of inlarging their house this summer. He (Belcher) went to Boston with Kelloch last week to preach in the Temple one Sunday. The people of Jefferson made Elder Bartlett a donation*

* In the fall of each year, it was customary to give the minister what was known as a donation. It was held in the evening at the parsonage, and was a social occasion to which old and young looked forward with pleasurable anticipation. Refreshments were

a short time since got about \$63. mostly cash. Religious interest here I should think is about as low as it can be. I have about given up the idea of ever knowing any thing about religion in reality. I went over to the prayer meeting (or where it should have been) last Sunday Evening. Found a house full of young people & not a person to carry on the meeting. Sad state of things this.

Emily sends her respects to you & all Old Town friends. Albert says write my love to father Richardson.

Write & defer not.

Yours,

S. J. Bond

91

Albert Richardson Esq.

Old Town, Me.

Jefferson April 9, 1857

Bro Albert

Yours of 31st ult. is at hand. You ask how is Hannah Avery. She is quite smart able to do her own work and go to meeting. Caroline Weeks is raving crazy so they have to cage her. The old folks on the mountain are as well as usual. I should think they are much better than when you went away.

served jointly by the parishioners and the minister and his wife. A few aged men and women still remember the pipe-stem candy which Elder Tilley gave to children at his donations.

The original idea of the donation was that the farmers should bring to the minister a winter's supply of fruit, vegetables and other foodstuff which they produced on their farms, but anything thought to be useful to the minister and his family was given. Some people preferred to give money, which, it is suspected, was the most welcome gift received.

Religious interest at a very low ebb with us. Elder L. B. Allen preached one sermon to us last sabbath. It was a sermon that would do anyone good to listen too, text "The vail of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom". When he came to speak of the rending of the vail it was grand indeed as well as solemn; solemn on account of the cause, grand on account of the way made by the rending for every sinner to approach the mercy seat and at any time if they approach with the heart right. At our last conference not a great many out but a freedom and willingness seemed to preside. Bro. Bartlett seems to try to do what he can, but Oh! how we miss Br. Tilley. Think he will not come to us again. It makes me feel sad to think he has left us when I think of him I could weep if it would do any good. I think the church & society would vote unanimously to have him come back. Don't think Bro. B. will stay more than this year or I think the people will not want him. We are not altogether fond of smooth things, I want such preaching as will make universalists and infidels squirm and the rest of us also who do not believe. When you write Br. T. ask him if it is not his duty to come back again (confidentially)

Many persons are pushing into California with haste to get rich. George Jones has bought Arthur Meservey's farm. Arthur has took a deed of Uncle Isaac's place and given him & wife an obligation for Maintenance (a hard row with many crags in it)

Please excuse my haste for some are talking and asking me questions as I write.

Business dull, money hard. Write soon again and let us know whether you are sick or well.

Yours as ever,

E. F. Weeks

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Old Town, Maine

Jefferson April 29, 1857

Bro. Albert,

Please excuse me for not answering your letter before this & at present I have but a few minutes before mail time so you must excuse brevity & blunders.

Most important news: D. N. Bond is married to Eliza. E. Blanchard. Don't you think David will get well. Benjamin Ladd is married to Miss Sarah E. Weeks (J. T. Week's daughter) & moved to Boothbay Harbor. W. Ansel Bessee has lost his youngest son disease — Consumption. Harriet Jones (William Jones' daughter) is at home sick. Disease, Consumption, probily will live but a short time. John N. Bond is building him a house also Albert Ames, also Richard Castle on the Jones Place. Jefferson is a growing place. Emily & Albert have gone to Albert Jacksons to spend the day.

I have been detained by customers & have not time to write more. Write on receipt of this.

Yours &c.

S. J. Bond

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Old Town, Maine

Jefferson, Me.

June 8, 1857

Bro. Albert,

I received your letter by Friday's mail & was glad to hear from you. Since I last wrote you Death has again entered our family circle & taken another of those little flowers which are too precious to stay in this cold world. Allison has lost his little girl. She died

a week ago last Thursday & was buried on Saturday following. She was sick about two weeks, disease of the brain. Allison is very unreconciled, he feels that God is unjust with him to take his only child. It was really affecting to see him get down to the coffin which contained the precious dust as it was opened over the grave & take his farewell of the little blossom. He told me that he thought he felt for you when you lost yours but now he finds he knew nothing how you felt. I hope that he may be brought to see that "God is too wise to err & too Good to be unkind."

Uncle Paul Ames has been quite sick but is now better, disease dropsy. Other wise I believe folks are all well as usual. Justus R. Richardson is married to a Miss Emily Erskine.

Answers to your Questions. S. W. Jackson still retains his place in the custom house, but the Democrats are mighty mad because John Kennedy has got the Appointment. David has moved on to the Island with his new wife, have not heard from him. Caroline Weeks remains about the same, no better. The good old folks on the hill are about as usual. Your father is quite slim, on the whole I think he is failing. Bill is with them yet. I believe I have answered all your questions.

Little Albert is well & is going to School. Emily sends her respects & is much obliged for the poetry. We have quite an interesting Sabbath School & have re-established the prayer meeting. Had quite an interesting one last Evening.

Yours &c.

S. J. Bond

Jefferson, June 15, 1857

Friend Richardson:

As I owe you a letter, I will pay my debt tonight — tho I have no news of much value since I last wrote. Allison Bond lost his girl of tubercular inflammation of the brain, an acute hydrocephalus, as some call it. I yesterday assisted a surgeon from Mass, in taking out a tumor, from the cavity of the abdomen of a lady in Whitefield, which weighed 35 lbs. It was beneath the walls of the abdomen and over the bowels. The operation exposed all the abdominal organs. It was an ovarian tumor. If she lives I think no one will die in the future.

E. P. Wilson went to Tenn. into a telegraph office, but not liking it returned and went to Chicago into a printing office.

S. J. Bond is getting up a new wagon and is painting it himself, so it will be a dandy.

Albert is going to school.

Emily has a flush on her cheek which she fears will be erysipelas. I tell her it is only a "deep blush."

I hope this will find you in good health and spirits — not spirits of wine, but spirits of an easy and jolly man "made perfect."

As for me, I am a good deal Blue, as we say. Do not enjoy life any too well.

I hope sometime to go to Old Town, when I will look at your damsels, such as come within the range of my vision.

Excuse my haste & believe me your

Friend

T. F. Barton

Respects to all friends — and to Miss M. A. R. in particular. Write soon

Good Night.

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Old Town, Maine

Jefferson July 19, 1857

Bro. Albert

I spend a few moments this morning to answer yours which was received Saturday.

William Hopkins (Flip) has been at home from the West. He starts for the West this morning & takes his Father & Mother & some doz. of young men from that part of the town. He lives at Marris, Ill. Says he would not come East to live for all of Maine. Geo Weeks has taken his wife to the insane hospital. She is no better, worse if anything.

We had quite a celebration here on the 4th. One foot company dressed in uniform one Horse Company, 20 in number, dressed in uniform, commanded by Capt. James Kincaid. 30 young Ladies representing the several States, all dressed in white, one representing morning, one evening. One each of the Seasons together with the Several Sabbath Schools. The processions were quite long and was said to look quite imposing. We proceeded to the Meeting-house & listened to the reading of the Declaration of Independence by Mr. Bartlett and an address by Rev. Mr. Chisam. We had a public table set near the School house from which 600 dined. It was judged there was from 1500 to 2000 people present. But enough of this.

Little Albert has the chicken pox but is not very sick. I send you his Miniature so you can see how he looks as he goes to school.

Emily sends her love is busy with the washing. Your Father & Mother are well. Bill is with them yet but has broken his pledge & got drunk two or three times of late.

Religious interest in the Church is as low as it can be I should think. Eld Bartlett is with us yet. I think if we had no Minister, we could get Bro. Tilley back but it is in vain to try while there is any one preaching here.

Excuse blunders for I have written this in about three minutes.

Yours,

S. J. Bond

96

Dea. Albert Richardson
Oldtown, Maine

Waldoboro Aug.3,1857

Dear Brother,

This is the third letter that I have written to you within four weeks. You have less cares, and more time than Henry or James to write a short letter, for I suppose it must be want of time and not lack of feeling, that you have been so negligent.

We are well. Samuel remains in the Custom House and will unless he leaves from choice. Ellen and Mary Ann, attend school. Abby is a perfect chatterbox. I go home often — Shall continue to while our dear parents live. Father is quite blind. Samuel sent him four kinds of spectacles, he could not use any of them, yet he appears cheerful. Mother is well talks much about her children, there kindnesses &c.

I heard Henry & Salome thought of visiting Jefferson this summer. Tell them to come by way of Waldoboro. Mr. Jackson can furnish them with a team that will do credit to an officer in Uncle Sam's employ.

Sister Mary Ann's gravestones are set.

We heard through Dr. Barton, the church and society in Old Town think of hiring Eld. Stephens. Hope he will preach the gospel in its purity.

Yesterday forenoon, Eld Kellogg preached from experience — a very sound and solemn discourse. This afternoon Eld. Chase from Warren preached a sermon that pleased the ear if it did not reach the heart.

Please write soon. I received a Magazine from you. Receive my thanks.

From your Sister

Lorinda

97

Mr. Albert Richardson

Oldtown, Maine

Bro Albert,

Jefferson

Aug. 31/57

Yours was received Saturday night, glad to hear from you.

Religious interest in this place is said to never have been so low since the organization of the church. Conferences very thin, business meetings more thinly. Eld. Bartlett is still here. His meetings are poorly attended. We have quite an interesting sabbath school at N. Village & a prayer meeting but few take part in the same. It looks dark as regards the state of society in this place. We rather thought you might be up to the association, was in hopes you would be.

Father has been very feeble lately, is some better now, suffers a good deal of pain, has turns about once in three days of distress in his stomach, is quite hard of hearing, has not been able to see to read any for three months past and says his eye sight is still failing. Mother says she is well as usual but I think she fails, looks broken. She wants to know if Henry says anything about coming up this fall. Thinks he has given up coming or you'd have said something about it in your letter. Think he had better come if he can. Elvira

is on the Mountain smart as a cricket. Bill is there yet or stays there. Drinks all the rum he can. Not much dependence can be put in him now, not the right man to be there.

Eld Tilley we expect this way today. He wrote me that he would be down to the association. I want to see him very much. Everybody wants to see him, children & all. We are about as usual. I saw Sams family last week — all well. Business is rather dull, money hard. Potatoes rotting, wheat poor, corn backward, hay plenty, stock high, rainy weather abundant.

Please write.

Respectfully,

E. F. Weeks

98

Mr. Albert Richardson
Oldtown, Maine
Richardson,

Jefferson,
Sept. 12, 1857

I must try to answer your letter — but feel dull and uninteresting, and look more so. In fine the whole world goes wrong with me today. I got up upside down, this morning and shall not get righted up again for the day. Everything is out of sorts and had I a wife today I would not have her purring around me, but would tell her to keep off — out of danger.

Business will not cure me — nor will brandy and water or cigars. I know of no cause for feeling so — but such spells will come. I shall soon get well. Please pardon me for writing you in such a mood. I must spite someone so I will inflict myself on you.

Albert is well of that discreditable distemper. Typhoid Fever is raging on West side of Pond. Wm Tobey has been sick six weeks — is better now. Harriet

Tobey has it. Mellon Linscott's oldest girl is at point of death almost, his boy got well. I have 4 or five down with it.

Rodney Ames has a boy — one of my No 1 boys. I have more on hand for distribution.

Mrs. Geo. Weeks is better. She will come home from the Hospital soon if she continues well.

Have been very busy lately, am most used up.

Mr. Bartlett still dispenses the gospel and William's bitters to us here. The bitters are the best of the two. They contain some gin and some aloes — both good.

Miss --- has taken tea with me so have I with her. Some say she is courted — some say not. Think she is not wholly done over yet. I think she is smart as the d---l — and would be a team for a living. We are well acquainted — That is all. I will now stop and go to dinner as the bell is calling — Good bye, till I dine. P.D. ie. After dinner — no better — but fuller. As to Alice of Warren — will be glad to visit her with you any time — if not otherwise engaged.

Hope I shall soon hear from you. Our show & Fair comes off next month at Waldoboro. I shall exhibit myself as an Odd calf. Would like to go to Bangor only business prevents.

(Mrs. B. Ladd has a boy I hear) T. B. this time is not needed to complete the scene. It has no relation to the general subject. I like to work news in with general remarks in my letters. It seems to chase off dulness.

When you come home, I will take you to see Miss Y--- courted or not. I am ahead of you on acquaintance so please to follow — not lead. — You may go ahead at Warren.

Yours truly,

T. F. Barton

Write soon. Respects
to friends & to M. A.

Mr. Albert Richardson
Oldtown, Maine
Bro. Albert

Jefferson
Sept. 30, 1857

I heard you thot some of teaching at Damariscotta if so, may we not expect a visit at least from you soon. We should be glad to see you.

Harriet Tobey has the fever.* There are quite a number of cases of fever in the place. James Hall has buried his son since I wrote you. Mellon Linscott buried his oldest daughter last monday. She suffered very much for 4 weeks, bore it patiently, died in the full assurance of receiving a crown that fadeth not. John Johnson has a kind of slow fever. Hannah Etta Jackson has a fever.

Religious interest low the church choose a committee to notify Eld Bartlett that they should expect his labors to close in Dec. They attended to that duty this week. Have not seen either of the com. since, therefore cannot tell how he received the message. Good Bro. Tilley & wife were here the first of this month. The people were almost ready to worship him. He looks good, his prayers sound as they used to. Mrs. Tilley's health is better than it has been for some years. He & she both say they like it better in Jef. than Waterville. I think there is no doubt but he will come back in a propper time if we want him & we do. Business dull money hard. My hands are so cold I can

* Typhoid.

hardly write. Will you please wright on the receipt of this.

Respectfully your,
E. F. Weeks

100

Albert Richardson Esq.
Oldtown, Maine
Bro. Albert,

Jefferson
Oct. 26, 1857

Yours containing \$15 was duly rec'd. I carried the same up and gave it to Father. He told me to say to you that he was much obliged to you for your good feeling towards them and also that he had sufficient money to answer all his demands & wants for the present. He told me to say to you to come home and teach at Damariscotta this winter for they want you. He says Benj. Metcalf says they want you in the bank.

Father & Mother's health about as usual. Mother has been looking for Henry untill she has almost looked her eyes out. Elvira says Mother has been getting ready all summer to make H's visit pleasant and thinks if H. has given up coming to J. he ought to write so as not to keep them in expectation to be disappointed every week. E. thinks H. could persuade them either to go away this winter or have some one with them. I have thought of them this morning during this great storm. How are they to get water and do the milking. Father says tell the boys that there are not 20 Bbls. of apples in the town fit for market. He raised about 4 Bushels of good & 5 of small ones.

Father Chisam preached a week ago last sunday. Preached good. He is rather feeble in body but strong in mind. J. W. Avery preached yesterday. I was not at meeting. Wm. Chisam said he preaches 2 excellent discourses. Religious interest is at a low ebb here.

Will you when you write say if Henry is coming up for benifit of the old folks at home.

We had a letter from Asa a short time ago. All well & doing well. Shall not visit Maine this fall.

Write soon.

Yours as ever,

E. F. Weeks

101

Mr. Albert Richardson
Old Town, Me.

Deerfield Center, N. H.
Nov. 18, 1857

Dear Bro. Richardson:

Please find enclosed an ambrotype picture of Miss Mary T., an excellent Lady of our church. If you are pleased enough with it to send me yours in return, please keep it till you may see the original: — then you can return it to me at your leisure.

From yours truly &c.

L. C. Stevens

102

Mr. Albert Richardson
Old Town

Deerfield Center, N. H.
Dec. 9, 1857

Dear Bro. Richardson:

Yours without a date, but which I suppose is not many days old, is just rec. and read. One question in relation to your settling at Damariscotta. Do you propose to find a home there because you think you can be more useful there than elsewhere?

The rest of this letter shall be devoted to your interest, by answering your inquiries in respect to Miss T.

I was in earnest when I said that "in my judgment

this Lady is well suited to walk with you the rest of Life's uneven journey."

Her age is, I think, 31; if I mistake at all she is older than that. In size she is as near that of your deceased wife as any person I can think of; or if you please, a very little larger than Samuel Bond's wife. Her height, and weight and general proportions harmonize well. I do not think they could be improved. She is erect, light in her steps, turns to the right or left as quickly as you do.

She has the same taste that you have, preferring a village or city residence to a country. I think she would make you a first rate wife. But with all I know and have heard I cannot judge for you. I state things just as they appear to me. Her father is one of the best and richest farmers in this town.

With much love from myself & wife,

From

L. C. Stevens

103

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson

Old Town, Me.

Jan. 4th 1858

Bro. Albert,

I suppose I am in debt to you for a letter I wrote James some fortnight ago.

I was on the Mountain Friday found Father & Mother as well as usual excepting father's blindness which he says if it continues to increase for 2 weeks to come as the 2 previous weeks he shall be entirely blind, but says he can do his chores about the barn &c. quite well. I think it is rather presuming for him in his situation to be climbing about the barn. He thinks not.

Dancing schools & sprees are all the go in this place. Father Chisam says the Devil has got a rum berrel on one side and a fiddle on another side. He says we as a church are being sifted. I do not know but it is so. It seems as though religions among the minor things with many. Some of the most wealthy are contending that it is useless to try to support preaching more than half the time at the meeting house. I sometimes tremble to think of the situation we are getting into as a church and society. It looks sometimes as though the Lord had left us to ourselves, not forsaken us. Although there are some bright spots in the road. Our prayer meetings at the North V. for the last three weeks have been to me precious. There appears to be a gradual increase of interest which I hope may continue, Eld Bartlett preached his farewell a week ago yesterday. The com. have written to Eld. Tilley. He gives them no encouragement at all that he will come to Jefferson.

Yours as ever,

E. F. Weeks

104

Albert Richardson
Oldtown, Maine

Waldoboro, Me.
Feb. 14, 1858

Dear Brother,

Something tells me to write you. By so doing I may hear from my dear friends in Old Town.

It has been a long time since I have heard one word, don't know whether you are sick or well. It cant be your fingers have froze, for the cold weather has hardly been at the freesing point here.

Samuel went to Whitefield last Friday. I have been alone with my little girl, since. Feel lonesome —

expect him this evening. Told him to inquire all about Father and Mother. I have not heard from them for some time. Have not seen them since last fall, supposed Elvira was with them till last Thursday week. Wrote to Elvira to see when she would come down (Samuel will go for her) and spend the rest of the winter with them. It grieves me very much and makes me very unhappy at times to know how disconsolate they must be this winter, Father almost blind, Mother bent under the wait of years, no child to cheer and comfort them in their declining years. I have not heard what arrangements you made. Samuel has just drove up, soon as he comes in I shall inquire for them. —

I have talked so long I dont know as I can close this interesting (?) letter this evening. E. F. Weeks went to Appleton Friday. Elvira came home with him. Jenett went home with her today (Sunday). Father is almost blind cannot see victuals on the Table at meal time. Mother is well a usual. Elvira will spend some time with them.

Scarlet Fever still prevails here. Mr. Light buried four children, all they had. Mr. Burket three out of six, others have buried one and two.

Justus Kennedy is among the afflicted. Little Willie aged about seven taken Wednesday night 27 Jan. died the 30th sickness severe. Caroline, his daughter, taken sick Jan 27 at our house. You can imagine our feeling.* Samuel took her home in his waggon and she is quite smart. Our little ones have escaped as yet. It has been in this village over one year.

Please write and tell what Minister you have with

* Their first two children died of this disease in 1850.

you. Eld. Bartlett has left Jefferson. Samuel is reading the bible. Ten to ten — good night.

Yours &c.

Lorinda S. Jackson

Albert Richardson, Esq.
Old Town, Maine

Jefferson, Me.
March 21, 1858

Bro. Albert:

We are having a smart rainy day and no one at home but myself and little Albert. Emily has gone to assist Uncle Paul Eames folks. Uncle Paul died last night about 8 o'clock. He was as well as usual during the day. Was in the woods hauling fire wood all day. Come in at night, ate a harty supper and during the evening was lively and cheerful. He retired about $\frac{1}{4}$ before 8 and fifteen minutes after was cold in death. Truly we know not what a day nor an hour will bring forth. Funeral to be tomorrow afternoon. I presume Uncle Jonathan & James have told you all the Jefferson news & via how did they get home.

There was a horrid murder committed at Coopers Mills, Whitefield last week. A man by the name of Pribble murdered his wife in a most brutal manner. Rum was the cause, I was at the funeral. There was any quantity of people present and a great excitement. He (Pribble) was at the funeral handcuffed with the Officer, (H.H. Chapman) by his side. He has ten children, all grown up and left home, 5 of whom were present. Two of the girls when they looked upon the corpse of their mother fainted. When they started with the corpse to the grave, the Sheriff started him to Wiscassett.

Monday Morning —

I don't think of anything more to write. Business is dull and every one complaining of hard times. Albert is well & smart. Says he wants to see you.

Yours truly

S. J. Bond

106

Mr. Albert Richardson
Old Town, Maine

Waldoboro
May 17, 1858

Dear Brother,

Sunday Samuel and myself went to Jefferson expecting to hear Elder Tilley preach, was disappointed. At three o'clock Eld. Chisam preached the funeral sermon of Mrs. Abby C. Floit (Abby C. Weeks). At one Eld. Tilley preached. He baptized six willing converts in Damariscotta Pond, there names were: Margaret Waters, Mrs. Elbridge Sherman, and her daughter, Ann Toby, Wm's daughter, Mrs. George Tobey's youngest daughter, the other a stranger — she appeared to be about fourteen. I learned that fourteen more had obtained hope. Abby Jackson, and Wm. Henry Bond are two of that number and dear brother, I wish I could say Sam & Jennett were included in the same number. Such is not the fact, there is no difference in them, and what shall I do? This morning about 8, my feelings were such that I had to call on God to have mercy upon him. A part of the time tears forbid that I should say one word, but God knew my hurt. I never felt so much distress* for Sam as I did this morning. I want him to be a true child of God, — pray for him,

* The distress Mrs. Jackson felt was because Mr. Jackson had not experienced "conversion" and been baptized by emmersion. His character and morals were excellent. See letter No. 55.

yes dear brother, pray for him. It appeared to me this morning when my soul was rung with agony that God would hear the united prayers of my brothers. Tell Henry and James to pray for him, intercede in his behalf as Jacob did. Don't let him go without a blessing.

There is no religious interest here. Our Wednesday and Saturday evening prayer meetings number from twelve to twenty. Yesterday Eld. Kellock exchanged with Eld Perry of Thomaston — did not hear him.

Scarlet Fever still prevails. John H. Kennedy buried his little son. This is the fifth child he has lost since his marriage.

I spent two days with Father and Mother week before last. They are as well as ever. Elvira went home two weeks ago. Joseph Baley does the farming this spring.

Samuel received a letter from you. It made the tears flow from my eyes and I have no doubt but what it did from his. I did not see it for some days after he received it. Write soon. Tell when you are coming home. I saw little Albert yesterday. He is well. I never wrote so bad a letter but I cant better it at five minutes past Eleven at night.

Lorinda

107

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson, Me.

Old Town, Maine

Aug. 20, 1858

Bro. Albert:-

My health is quite good, on the whole better than when you left. I dont' stay in the Store but a very little. We are all as well as usual, although it is quite sickly in town. The Scarlet fever is raging to a con-

siderable extent, but with a few exceptions, in quite a light form. There is quite a number sick with the typhoid fever in this vicinity which keeps Dr. Barton pretty busy.

We called on your father last evening. Found them all well except Sarah Dunbar (who has been living there for a short time) who I think will have the fever. Asa & wife leave town today by Stage for New York.

The Rev. J. M. Kelley has been laboring with us for the passed two weeks. The Church & Society voted unanimously last Sabbath to give him a call to labor with us for a while. Probably he will conclude to Settle here. Jos. Chapman and a young man by the name of Bateman were baptized last Sunday. Eli Noyes will be baptized soon and join this Church. He formerly belonged to the Congregational Church in Warren but did not feel satisfied with baptism. Mr. Kelley will commence his labors a week from next Sunday & probably he will go forward on that day.

The Lincoln Co. Cattle Show and fair will be held in Jefferson, Oct. 13th, 14th and 15th. A great time of course. The Teacher's Institute is expected to be held in Jefferson about the middle of Sept. under the direction of M. H. Dummell, Supt. of Common Schools. So you see Jefferson is highly favored.

Albert goes to School & learns well. Give our respects to all down East friends.

Yours truly

S. J. Bond

Albert Richardson Esq.
Old Town, Maine

Brooklyn, N. Y.
Oct. 4, 1858

Dear Bro. Albert:

I think I can almost hear you say, "Why does Asa not write"? Hear then, ye men of Old Town, & all you that dwell in the countries of the East, and give ear to my words. It is not that we, I, Asa, and my whole household, have you in light esteem, for our estimation is greater than can be spoken by words. Know then, that we tarried in the East, even in Maine, by the space of a whole week, beyond our appointed time, visiting the brethren at Jefferson, Waldoboro, Waterville, Gardiner and Portland. Now it came to pass, when we returned to this great city, even Brooklyn, which is eastward from New York by the space of four furlongs, even upon the island which is call "Long", that the inhabitants of the city came unto us, asking many questions regarding our school; insomuch that we were compelled to toil late in the night, that we might make ready our own hired house. Some even brought of their silver and gold, saying, "take ye it, for it is thine; only let, we pray thee, our sons, thy servants, return unto thee, that they may learn of all those things which are taught in the books". Now as we could not find it in our hearts to refuse the silver and gold, for we have toiled among this people even for the space of three whole years, we said unto them; "be it even as ye have spoken, only see that ye owe no man anything hereafter".

It came to pass, upon the appointed day, even the second day of the week and the sixth day of the month, called September, there came unto us, of the sons of the inhabitants of the city, thirty and four, who wished

to be taught many things, even to speak in unknown tongues. Others, also, joined themselves to these, till there were numbered, of sons who came to learn, two score and one; and, also, of daughters, even those that are fair to look upon, six. Moreover, some of these come even at the third hour of the afternoon, and tarry two whole hours.

Oct. 6 —

When I commenced this letter on the 4th, I intended to have finished it & much other writing that eve., but was called off by Annie. It is now just after sunrise & as pleasant as one could wish. We have had very pleasant weather since our return. Quite warm — some days hot, — no fires.

There does not seem to be the same interest in religious matters that existed when I left for Maine. H. W. Beecher's society are thinking of building a larger church. Beecher says he could preach to 6000 as well as 3000; or could do as much preaching in ten years as he should otherwise do in twenty. "That is I could double myself."

When shall we see you in B.? Why can you not come out this Fall? Give love to all.

Very truly,

Asa B.

109

Albert Richardson, Esq.
Old Town, Maine
Friend Richardson,

San Francisco
Oct. 19, 1858

Agreeable to promise, I write you a few lines from the land of gold. In the first place I will tell what I think of the great Pacific Mail Co.

It is my opinion that the owners and all their agents are as great a set of liars cheats and scoundrels as can be found on the face of the earth. I began with an agent of theirs in Bangor by the name of Flowers, for information in regard to a box of freight. Gave him the dimentions, weight and all the particulars. He pretended to know all about it said it would cost me just 10cts. per lb. from N. Y. to S. Francisco and when I got to N. Y., they would not take it through less than 25cts. per pound. It weighed 282 lbs., so you see it made quite a difference. In Boston we bought tickets of Bartlett, agent. He was ready to give any information we wanted and I don't believe he told us a single truth during the whole transaction. We bought tickets on the Empire City, to sail the 17th, and did not know to the contrary till near the time of sailing when we learned that the Empire City was not going at all, but we were transferred on board the steamer Philadelphia, a boat of about the same class only very much slower in speed. Bartlett told us the tickets were all sold for the Star of the West, which was to sail on the 20th and but very few left for the other, but they continued to sell for both boats up to the hour of sailing and when we got on board, we found we were packed in like a flock of sheep, almost as many as could stand up on board. There were over 700 and some 200 more than there was berths for in the ship. About $\frac{1}{4}$ of the passengers were Americans and the rest were French, Irish, Dutch, Negroes, &c. To make the company still more interesting, we had about 75 women in the Steerage with any quantity of squalling children.

The first 2 days out was fine weather and smooth sea, but the 3-4-5 were rough with high winds and showers of rain which made it very uncomfortable as

not more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the passengers could get below; we had canvas spread on deck but the wind blew so that it did not do much good and a good many had to be wet and very uncomfortable. The 6th day out we touched at a little Island on the coast of Florida called Key West, where we were transferred on board another steamer called The Grenada and the Philadelphia went to Havana with mail and some passengers. We took in coal & water and then proceeded on to Aspinwall.

This little Island (Key West) is a barren sand beach about six miles round it with about 6 or 7 hundred inhabitants who get their living by wrecking principally. They have plenty of shade trees round their buildings of a sort of scrubby growth but raise no produce of any kind except a very few sweet potatoes. They live an idle lazy life and appear to be miserably poor. Uncle Sam has built a noble looking fort here, but what use can be made of it except to protect the Island is more than I can see, for it is 30 miles to the nearest point of land and I think the Island hardly worth the expence.

Arrived at Aspinwall, Oct. 1, crossed over by train in about 4 hours. The Star of the West arrived two days ahead of us. Found passengers on board the John L. Stephens, waiting so you see the Star of the West made the trip in 4 days less time than we did. We were on the J. L. Stephens, 15 days making 28 days from N. Y.; a long and tedious voyage — but enough of this.

I will tell you now something about Cal. as near as I can from what I have seen & learned. The prospect for making money in Cal. at present looks rather slim, I assure you. We brought in on the last steamer about 1,400 passengers the last mail before about 1,600

and the next mail will bring another crowd and a great many coming back from Frazer river. Looks a little as though there would be more people than employment the coming winter.

I have been looking round and harking for 2 days and I must say that the prospect does not seem so encouraging as I could wish. I have heard many say that came with me, that if they had money enough to pay their passage back, they would go directly home again. Not so with me, by any means. My courage is as good as ever. Davis & myself are going to leave here tomorrow for Humboldt Bay and have no fears but we can get employment & fair pay for the winter either at H. Bay or somewhere else on the coast. I have taken some pains to make some inquiries for you according to promise and am sorry to say that I can give no friend of mine the least encouragement to come out this winter as things look now, but hope the prospect will be better next spring.

The weather is fine as can be here, just cold enough to be comfortable. The city has not changed so much as I expected. Things look pretty much the same as when I was here, but the market has improved very much. I never saw such nice vegetables of all kinds. Fruit too is getting quite plenty, never saw such apples and pears but they are high. The best of them are worth 3 bits* each and such as would be worth one cent at home sell 2 for a bit. They are raised mostly in Oregon, but some in Cal.

Grapes are plenty and cheap compared with other things. They retail for one bit a pound, very large and fine. Board & lodging from 7 to 10 dollars per week or 1.50 per day or 50 cts. a meal & 50 cts. for lodging.

* One bit equals 12½ cents.

Found A. Alford & delivered the pictures. Think he was well pleased with them. He appears very much like Ed. only rather better looking.

My sheet is full and it is late in the evening so I shall have to close but I wish to say to you that I thank you for the kind favors you have shown me in times past and you may be assured they are remembered with a grateful heart. Give my respects to all that inquire after me. Call on my family when convenient.

If you will write me a few lines when convenient, I will return the favor.

Yours truly,

S. Hopkins

110

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

Oldtown, Me.

Oct. 21, 1858

Friend Richardson,

I have looked a long time to hear from you and am tired and disappointed. I answered your last letter on the day I received it and have watched the Office ever since.

I have no news. Our County Fair* went off well. I saw the said Miss McCullum up here at the Fair. I do not meditate to cut you off from either her or her mother — let your designs be on either.

Samuel Bond was thrown from his wagon last Sunday. We feared he was seriously injured internally and were much alarmed for him, but he is safe now, —

* For several years the Lincoln County fair was held in Jefferson. The fair ground was on the north side of Route 32, about one half a mile west of the Shepard Cemetery. There were fair buildings and a race track, all traces of which are gone. The last fair was held there about 1880.

so I think. He has put off his white horse in exchange for a colt.

Your friends in town are all well. Joseph Blackstone cut his throat the other day, and died instantly. He did it in the grave-yard, in the presence of two or three persons.

Mary Ann has gone to Waldoboro today, will go to Warren, to Damariscotta and back here.

When you wrote me last, you said "Court her a little, I think she will bear it" and what you said, I fear has got us both into trouble. It has her I know. What began as a little innocent flirting to amuse the public, has got her into a fix, (Short it may be) and perhaps me too. It has knocked all her Old Town associations higher than a hill, and it weighs me down to fear that I have not acted the proper part. But I did not mistrust that she was in elsewhere, (I mean from her conduct) till long after, I found she was on fearfully dangerous ground, (and perhaps me too). But from what I know now, I should have kept my distance as a matter of honor, had I not drawn a partially wrong inference from what you said in your letter. I feel sorry for her, so does she for me. The whole town knows that we have been together half of my leisure time for a month back. So it is useless for us to disguise it.

I know she is given to flirting, but the best of girls do that, so it kills no one in my estimation. She wants me to be satisfied about her antecedents, before she can consider me on negotiable ground. Had I known what I now know, I would have kept away when I saw where we were getting.

Now what about her. Is it a sudden fit, with her or not. Can I trust her, if I want to try it.

As a friend of both, I ask you. Write what you please in truth and candor. The more favorable the better.

(I suppose she knows I am leaking out to you) No one here knows only what they can surmise. Our counsels are close — So let them be —

I need not write you a page to tell you why I thus trouble you. The fact that you are our friend is enough. I trust you. Don't let me get a cooler from you unless you cannot do otherwise.

To tell you the plain truth, unless she is very fickle minded, I do not see how she can get out of this affair alone, and be herself again. It may be I do not know the sex. I confess my ignorance of it. How freely I talk. Will you do the same?

Now one thing above all — I pledge you to profound secrecy. Don't intimate it by word to any living being. I trust you in full faith.

Yours truly,

T. F. Barton

Burn this or hide it.

111

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Oldtown, Maine

Friend Richardson,

Jefferson

Oct. 28th 1858

Your letter is at hand — and I cannot give you a very good one in reply — as I have to visit a patient yet tonight and it is now 7 o'clock P.M. — besides I was out last night on professional duties. I think Mr. Bond is very desirous of getting a letter from you — as he last wrote you — I hear him speak of it often. As for myself, I will always be glad to hear from you,

and do hope that we shall occasionally write each other.

Mr. Bond is now about well. Mr. John Bond's wife is dangerously sick, in a very critical state. We hope she may recover — but fear she will not. Today we tapped Mrs. Geo. Kennedy, for dropsy, of abdomen, and drew off a six quart pail full of water. She has a large ovarian tumor.

I have no other news of note. Am much obliged to you for your kind letter. Can hardly stop to answer in full, as I must go in a few minutes. What you said about Mary Ann & me appeared to be literally true, and the fix I alluded to was that I had been ignorantly the cause of her losing her interest in Mr --- of Old Town. I did not know how things stood until three weeks after it had all blown up and I learned the whole from her. You needn't judge her till you hear her story. I think I ought to believe it. It was indeed a fix for so sensitive a man as I am — to feel that her friends might think I had been intimate with her — when I knew I ought not to be. It did pain me when I learned the facts. I do not feel free to give her version of matter. What I want is to have you know that I did not intentionally wrong your Old Town friend. If anyone is in fault it is she. Perhaps she will explain it to you for my sake — so you will not judge either too severely.

But word comes for me to be off. So I must close, for this to go tomorrow. I cannot have time in the morning to say more.

We have a perfectly good understanding. I think she is an excellent girl and like her much. Be assured we shall settle matters to suit ourselves, whether we do other folks or not.

In Great Haste

T. F. B.

Cannot answer you more fully now, guess I have good enough already. You must get her over the coals, if you choose. She will bring no charges against me. Will annoy you no more (now). Hope to hear soon, from you. Shall I? I am much obliged to you for your very kind letter and interest in me.

T. F. B.

P. S. Am sorry to stop now — but think you must be very glad.

When I think how much you wanted to know, I am ashamed to send this.

That patient will die if I am not off — this is my last line.

Friday Morn

At John Bonds now — Mrs. B about the same — we think her case very doubtful, but cannot say she will not get well.

T. F. B.

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson

Old Town, Maine

Nov. 4th 1858

Dear Uncle Albert —

I commence writing you partly because I promised to write from Warren and partly because Uncle Erastus told me of what you wrote him and I have a great desire to hear from you.

I find Grandmother without a girl and not very well, so I have been hard at work for the last two or three days. Grandfather had a distressed spell last night — but they are both better today. I do not think it is safe for them to be alone this winter. Shall stay here now while I am in town.

As to Dr. Barton, I find I am just learning how good he is. But I do want to see you so much — why will you not come here? Two of us read your advice, that is, if I remain here, and I some think I shall as I am so much needed here and of so little use at Old Town.

Grandfather and Mother wish to be remembered. The latter says “tell him to come up and see us, for he went off so suddenly and made so short a visit — that I do not feel satisfied.” Now you must come if only for a short time.

But it is growing late and I must close. Good bye.

Yours with much love,

Mary A. R.

Saturday Eve. Nov. 6th 1858

Dear Uncle:

Since writing the letter enclosed with this, and before having an opportunity for sending it, have rec'd your kind letter and so open mine to answer it. Grandfather and Mother are quite well now, for them. I am here with them, have been since last Monday, and shall be next week. Aunt Jennett is here now — well.

I had a letter from Abbott last eve, as well as you, so got all accounts of his sight-seeing. Dr. Barton brought all my letters, as he comes to see me oftener than any one else. I had a letter from Annie Rigby last eve, in which she said she wished to be remembered to you.

As you say, the Dr. and I are acting, but in the letter accompanying this, I have written you something about it. Be sure I would not trifle with him, I know him to be too good. But I will not write you on this subject more at length now. Perhaps after you

have written me again, I will or rather we, (the Dr. and I) will give you full account of our actions.

By the way, last night I also received a letter from Charlie accompanying all of mine I have written him since I left Old Town. Thus closing off our affair. I have still some interest to know how he feels. Please tell me what you know.

I have made one visit at Emily Bond's and I see your little boy a great many times. Will do as you wished for I think he is a very good, smart boy now.

But it is growing dark — I cannot see to write straight, so will close. Please answer me very soon. I shall be anxious to hear.

Good bye.

Your Affectionate Niece

Mary A. R.

113

Mr. Albert Richardson
Old Town, Me.

Jefferson
Nov. 7, 1858

Bro. Albert:

We do not hear from you lately! What is the reason? Should be glad to hear occasionally from O. T.

We are moving along quietly in Jefferson. Father's health is quite as good as usual. He thinks his eye-sight is a coming back, can see a little better than a year ago. Mother has been quite unwell of late. Jennet thinks she failed a good deal this season; is very forgetful. Jo Bailey is done work with them. Father says they must try and get along alone this winter for he can not afford to pay \$10 per month, in the winter. Jennet says they are not fit to stay alone, or it is not safe or prudent for them to be alone. Mary A. is up with them now. She intends to come down here this

week. She & Barton, I think are wooing pretty strongly from 2 to 4 evenings per week. I think Barton is completely smitten with her and she with him.

Eld. Kelley moved his family into the parsonage Friday last, so we have got a minister at last. I hope he will be successful. He thinks he has a work to do in this place. Hope he will not be disappointed in his expectations. The people as a general thing, like him and his preaching.

Edward Jones and Charles Ames got home from California last week, have not seen them. It is said that Edward looks feeble. The North Villagers think he has come home as poor as he went away. Jacob Johnson & one of John L. Day's sons expect to start for California this month.

John N. Bond's wife has not been expected to live for a fortnight. She was confined. She went into convulsions before being confined and continued senseless for a number of days. They have a little hopes of her now if nothing more takes place to put her back. Mr. Bond told me today that he thot if she should take the least cold it would carry her off, she is so weak.

Please write on receipt of this for we want to hear from our friends once in a while, if we cannot see them.

Respectfully yours,

E. F. Weeks

114

Mr. Albert Richardson
Old Town, Maine

Jefferson
Nov. 23, 1858

Mr. Richardson — Dear Friend,

Your letter came to hand in due time — for which I am much obliged. I passed the note enclosed to Mary

Ann, who thought you were very particular to seal it strongly. I told her it was all well, and that I supposed you had something very private locked up within. We have concluded to write you together, as we now do. She may seal her note, but I shall not this.

E. F. Weeks and wife, myself and Mary Ann, intend to go to Allison Bonds to tea Thanksgiving Eve, if not stormy.

Mary Ann says you write that you heard we were acting, and wanted to know if it was so. I told her to tell you that we were acting, simply adding the word smoothly to it. Like a true woman she consulted me — and of course will take my advice. What you wrote me in your last is very satisfactory. You must not credit any report you may hear about us. They may not be true — and they may be.

Mr. Tilley exchanged with Mr. Kelley last sabbath. He baptized Mr. Noyes, of Wat. Col., and a lady also. He had a full house. What a fine day it was for Nov., but it snows today, and I fear our good travelling is gone — as well as our fine weather. Have had as good wheeling for two weeks back, as ever in summer. Think my bells will be out tomorrow.

Mrs. John Bond is better — can sit up a little. We think she will recover.

E. F. Weeks came from Boston two weeks ago. He bought sole leather and peanuts mostly. I will add a new coat. Mary Ann keeps him remarkably good natured.

But I must stop. Let us hear again soon. Excuse this hasty epistle, and believe me truly

Your friend

T. F. Barton

Mr. Albert Richardson
Old Town, Me.

Jefferson Nov. 23, 1858
Tuesday p.m.

Dearly Beloved Uncle,

Your note by way of the Dr., was received. I hasten to answer that you may have no excuse for delay, for you of course must know, that whatever comes from Old Town, and the oftener the better, is of great interest to me.

So you have talked with Charlie. I am glad. Do you think he will really go to California? If so has this affair anything to do with his going. I would like to see him, but if he goes next month, of course, shall not.

Nov. 29, Sunday eve —

Uncle, Aunt and I went out to Allison Bonds to tea, and spent the evening. Had quite a good time, save that I made so much a glutton of myself as to be sick after it. The Dr. was there also. He and I meet occasionally. There is no need that you caution me to use him well. I have passed the point where I could do otherwise. But come up and see for yourself.

Having nothing more to write, will close with kind regards to friends and love to yourself.

Write very soon, and excuse this. Good night.

As ever,

Mary A. R.

Albert Richardson, Esq.
Old Town, Maine

Brooklyn, N. Y.
Dec. 27 1858

Dear Brother, Albert:-

Yesterday was "New Year's Day" with us in N. Y. Did you have any such day, "away down East"? It was quite rainy in the morning, but by 11 o'clock the

gentlemen, young & old, lads & small boys, were driving, walking, hurrying, splashing through the streets to make their New Year's calls upon the ladies. I made but one call before noon, but that one was so far off it ought to be scored a dozen. After that I made 43, and got home a quarter past eight, (quite sober) and found Mrs. R. & the Misses Richards, still entertaining gentlemen. Annie rec'd 35 calls, all, I believe, after 11 A. M. The last gentleman left at 11:40 P. M.

We had quite a number of presents from our pupils. Annie rec'd a gold ring, (large with stones) a collar, & a gold stud to hold the collar. I rec'd 6 fine linen handkerchiefs & a large gold pencil. "We" had 2 silver salt spoons. Annie also rec'd presents from her husband to the amount of \$18.50.

Our school is larger then ever before, numbering 53. School Bills last term amounted to some \$400. Have not added up the Bills for this term, though the first half has passed. I wish you were here to assist me, so that Annie might devote her time to young ladies.

The Misses Richards are still with us. Very interesting, pleasant and good young ladies. Annie's Mother has returned to Waterville, after having spent some three years with us. John B. Foster* is now Prof. of languages in Waterville College.

Religious interest in our city seems much less than it was several months ago. I think we shall try to secure seats at Rev. M. Beecher's the coming year. That seems to be the only place where we can all feel to attend.

If you have a wish to secure a place here, shall be

* John B. Foster was Mrs. Asa B. Richardson's brother.

exceedingly well pleased to assist. We should be very happy to have you here. Come & see us! Come!

Give my kind regards to Henry, James & their better halves. Write often.

Very kindly,

Asa B.

Mr. Albert Richardson
Oldtown, Me.
(Per Mr. Bond)

Jefferson
Jan. 11, 1859

Friend Richardson,

As Mr. Bond has been going to Oldtown for a week or two, and will probably get off soon, I have concluded it will be safe to write a line this morning as I think he must now go soon.

We have had two very cold days, as cold as I have ever known, so it seems to me, and I have not blamed them for not starting. I find this going about and coming home and getting into bed in the middle of a cold night for other folks not so agreeable a business as some might suppose. However, as every back is fit for its own burden, I have concluded to round up to it, and let Providence pile on the load, as it pleases. I find it quite a satisfaction that we have to live but one day at a time, and as this order of things will probably never be reversed, we can say we have some little knowledge of the future, at least.

Allison has just come into the Office and says they are just starting. So I must hasten. Of course, they will tell all news, so you can expect none from me. Mr. Kelley's donation comes off tonight. The storm prevented Mr. Chisam's from taking place on the night designated.

You will learn of the death of Catherine Tilley from Mr. Bond. She died of bleeding at the lungs. It was so sudden and copious, as to produce suffocation almost immediately.

I have a letter in my pocket now for Mary Ann, from Old Town and would like for her to have it before they start, but shall not be able to get it to her.

To speak so as to be understood, I must say that she is fat, very much so, and quite clumsy. You would hardly know her. I am vain enough to suppose that it is all in her doctoring. But I don't boast about myself much.

Yours very truly,

T. F. Barton

118

Mr. A. B. Richardson
Brooklyn, N. Y.
Bro. Asa;

Old Town,
Feb. 4th, 1859

I have received your last kind letter and after waiting a few days so that I might give you a short account of my concert, hasten to answer.

In the first place, will consider your questions. I cannot tell you the reason why James and Henry do not write you but suppose it is pure neglect. Perhaps you had better "blow them up".

I some expect to make a change in my business this spring and expect now to make you a visit, (though I may not) and look about your great city and see what there may be for me. I now have in my mind to attend the anniversaries in N.Y. in May. As I have before said, — hope you will keep out an eye and if a chance that is promising should offer, just let me know. In answer to Miss Richard's wanting to see me, I have only to

say that I would like to see her and make her acquaintance and this puts me in mind to say that I gave James your letter to read and when he got through, he said that he would send Miss Richards a bill of my concert so if she receives one you can account for it in this way. It is James' mischief.

I now come to Old Town matters. I have just closed up my S. School. Had an unusually large and able school. Gave a concert which was the best thing of the kind I ever gave and acknowledged to be the best thing of the kind they ever had in this village. Upper Stillwater and Orono were handsomely represented and acknowledged they were "beat". It was the first meeting of the kind I ever saw in O.T. when we could hold the people in perfect order. It was good, very good.

The religious state of feeling is quite good yet and we are expecting more display of the Holy Spirit.

We are as well as usual, Salome quite smart. Sam and Allison Bond with their ladies and my little boy have been down and made us a visit. We were extremely glad to see them. They remained with us about one week. Have not heard from them since their return. They say that Dr. Barton is in their opinion courting Mary Ann in good earnest and they think they may be married before long. Mary Ann has not yet returned and I do not know when she intends to return.

We have had some terrible, cold weather but on the whole, have but little reason to complain.

I can think of no news to write.

Allow me to say that I like this writing often and hope you will remember that when you receive this you will be in my debt.

Where is little Annie that I don't hear a word from

her diamond pen? Her letters used to do me a great deal of good. Give her my best respects and also Miss Richards.

Respectfully,

A. Richardson*

119

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson, Me.

Old Town, Maine

February 4th 1859

Dear Uncle —

Supposing the good people in Old Town might be anxious, I now make an effort to write you of Uncle Erastus' illness. He was taken Monday forenoon — probably got cold from exposure in taking care of the baby during the night before — he came in, said he was sick and went to bed. Aunt Jennett doctured him for a cold. (Tuesday) he was no better, and the Dr. coming in to carry me up on the Mountain, they consulted him. He gave it as his opinion, Uncle would have a run of the Lung-fever, same as before, though not as violent. (Wednesday) no better in the P. M. The baby who had been having a bad cold for a few days, was taken in a convulsion. They sent in great haste for the Dr., and brought him out by warm baths &c. He seemed after it, quite sick. (Thursday) — Uncle worse — the baby very feeble seemed to be having the same disease his father has. (Friday) — Uncle is still worse — for the last five hours of last night, he grew sick very fast and now — Friday night, eleven o'clock, as I sit in the room while Aunt Jennett gets a little rest, he is talking at random and springing all over the bed so I have to put down my paper and attend to him every five minutes or less — so you will excuse the

* Albert Richardson, to whom most of these letters were written.

looks of this I know. Thought I must write knowing how anxious Father and Uncle James were when he was sick before. The Dr. thinks his lungs are getting as bad off as before, but the disease has not as yet taken so violent a form — so he may get along well, but the chances are just about even. Today the baby seems a very shade better — he is such a patient little thing.

Aunt Jennett seems pretty well — though you know how she will keep up in such cases. I am just as well as can be — fat — have my hands full with the work. The neighbors are very kind, especially Thomas Weeks, who does all the chores. William Chisam is in the store now — but you know how sickly he is, and he can't hold out long, for trade is very good. We all wish you were here.

Sam Bond was down here yesterday. Emily is well, so is your little boy. She is making up her new dress. She seemed very much pleased with her presents. You must have enjoyed Albert's visit I know. When are you coming up? We all want to see you so much.

Good night.

Yours,

Mary A. R.

120

Mr. Albert Richardson
Old Town, Me.
Bro. Albert,

Feb. 14, 1859
On the Mountain

Dr. Barton wrote Sat., to go via Thomaston, so you will hear one day in advance of this.

I came from Erastus' last night at 5½. He had a comfortable day. Sat up an hour to wash and change his clothes, which however, tired him out. Still we hope

there is nothing to prevent his getting up. Dr. B. says if nothing transpires to pull him down again, he sees nothing to prevent his getting up rapidly. Never saw so great & rapid a change in one as sick as he was. He is strong, gets up himself, or rises in bed & talks as strong as ever

Father is better than I expected — but O! poor Mother fails. She is so forgetful — and here alone — my heart aches for them. One thing is sure, they must have a girl or woman to help there & that immediately. I talked with Mother all about it last night. She says she knows all about it & is willing to have someone.

Cannot say more as it is late, 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ — and the mail goes at 11. Poor Mother has been nearly 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours getting breakfast. Just let Salome know how & where I am. More soon.

Yours in haste,

H. Richardson

121

Albert Richardson

Goffstown - Center N. H.

Old Town, Maine

Mar. 31, '59

Dear Bro. Richardson:

It was very pleasant to me, to hear so good a report of the progress of the religious interest amongst Baptists in Old Town. I never expect to see better days than we had at Jefferson; still I have nothing of which to complain.

As to the matter of being settled again in life, I think it is time, high time for you, and, if in my power, I would gladly render you any aid in this direction.

I have a Lady on my mind whom I will describe. She is about 37 years old, not more, nor less than 36.

In size, she is about that of your deceased wife. Eyes, ears, hands, feet, look well — general configuration & development fair — so that she looks as well as the average of Ladies. Mrs. Stevens thinks better.

She is a Baptist — a decided, living Christian, who could not be in any church without being valued.

Her health is as good as any Lady's that I know of, of her age. So that she is able from month to month to pursue steadily her work.

She has a superior mind — is intelligent & amiable.

Mrs. S. unites with me in love.

As ever,

L. C. Stevens

P. S. I have got her picture, and send it herewith. She is dressed in mourning as you will see, her mother having recently died.

In closing, I will just add that few indeed are the gentlemen that I know in want of a wife, that I would consider worthy of this Lady, or of whom I would speak to her, recommending marriage. Her qualities of mind and heart, I think rarely, if ever, excelled. Since the death of her husband, she has had several offers of marriage; but has declined them. Still I think she would accept the right offer. I have never mentioned your name to her; nor does she know anything of this correspondence.

Write me what you think.

L. C. Stevens

122

Mr. Albert Richardson
Old Town, Maine

Goffstown-Center N. H.
May 18, 1859

My dear Brother:

I shall laugh at you a little now. Yours of the 12th

is before me. You ask, "Don't you think she is a little too old?" Do you remember that you thought Miss T. "a little too young"? So young as to endanger your purse for the benefit of a rising family?! Now 37 is a little too much!!

So much in the way of laughter, from your old friend and brother. Of course, you will relish it; and laugh yourself, when you think over how wonderfully I have selected wives for you, first getting my eye upon one too young, and then upon one too old. Don't you think I can do some other thing better than select wives for other people? However, if I can find one for you, I will do it.

With kind regards from myself and wife, I am

Affectionately,

L. C. Stevens

123

Mr. Albert Richardson
Old Town, Maine
Bro. Albert,

Jefferson
July 1st 1859

Wm. Fish says there was no price set for the pew rent. Says to be as favorable as you can with him. Dr. Barton is about negotiating with Sewell for a house lot up by Bessee's. Thomas would not consent to let the corner go. James Robinson is up here now. Tells me you have gone into partnership with James. Hope you will do well. Think if you get a good wife, you will do better.

Jennett was on the Mountain yesterday. Says Father is very slim. She thinks it doubtful if he stands it long. Mother about as usual, feeble. They have Elvina Jones with them: not the girl for them by any means, though they like her very well. Elvina Meservey

cannot leave home. Mrs. Gray has been up there & says they are in trouble. Albert's wife she thinks to be in the last stages of consumption, & Henry's wife a going in the same manner, which appears singular.

William Chisam has had a bleeding spell this week. Consequently, he is much more feeble than usual.

Religious interest rather dull, had rather an extra conference the last one. Eld. Kelley is well liked as yet. He rather gains in the estimation of the people here. There is to be a baptism in the Trask neighborhood next sabbath.

Respect to all. Must stop here.

Yours,

E. F. Weeks

124

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Oldtown, Maine

Dr. Bro. —

Waldoboro

July 13, 1859

I write you without any particular news except perhaps what you may have heard in part.

The Ladies of the Baptist Sewing Circle held a Fair here on the fourth, which would have been a decided success had it not been for an accident by way of upsetting a large hanging camphine lamp at the moment when the amusements of the evening were just to commence. The Fair was held in the Tebbets & Fish block — 4 stories on one street & 3 on the other and the lamp was suspended about the middle of the large hall which was filled to its utmost capacity, say 700 persons or more. The flame from the Camphine and the alarm of fire, caused a complete panic and a general rush with hideous noises, was made for the doors and windows.

The fire was soon extinguished, but in the general stamped many persons were thrown down and trod on & considerably bruised and quite a number escaped out of the windows on to the roof of A. F. Miller's store, and some were hanging out of the windows of the hall over the streets. But the hardest part was, four little girls at about 12 years of age & one boy of about the same age, jumped out of the windows on the third story side to the side-walk, (28 feet) and what is remarkable, but one of them was seriously injured. That one, Anna Stow, Wm. F. Stow's daughter, had one wrist broken — the other dislocated and one thigh broken — but not injured any other way, so far as know. She is doing well and is bright and cheerful about it.

Some lost bonnets, some hats, shawls and even some of the ladies lost their boots in the melee, besides torn dresses. But for all that, they escaped remarkably well under the circumstances.

My folks were all in the hall at the time in different places, but escaped without any particular hurt, save a few bruises and minus one bonnet.

I had left the hall about two minutes before the accident and went to my house and returned in about five minutes from the time I left — and you hardly can imagine the difference of the appearances.

As a whole, the escape under the circumstances, as I understand them, without any more serious results, was remarkable — although if calmness could have prevailed when the lamp fell, no serious trouble would have arisen.

Respects to all — Write.

Yrs. &c. &c.

S. W. Jackson

Mr. Albert Richardson
Old Town, Me.

Jefferson, Me.
Oct. 27, 1859

Bro. Albert,

I believe you have not written me since you went into trade with J. Y. Suppose it is because you cannot get time. Think it cannot be for any other reason.

Jennett & Adelaide have been on the Mountain this week. Came home yesterday. Father & Mother quite smart on the whole. He has an occasional ill turn, not so bad as they have been. They think of coming down here week after next, if nothing in Providence prevents. Father has rented his farm to George Jones for one year. No terms or price are agreed upon yet. He, George, agrees to leave it to S. W. Jackson & E. F. Weeks to say what he shall give for it for one year. George has sold his farm to Wm. Witham for \$1000.

Sam J. Bond leaves here next Tuesday with his goods, for Damariscotta. Albert (your son) wants to buy Grandfather's farm. He told his Mother Bond he wished he had a thousand dollars then he would buy a string of steers; so you see, he has an idea of becoming a farmer.

Dr. Barton disappeared last Saturday and has not been heard of since. It may be a little mysterious. Will you make some little inquiry down your way, whether he has been seen anywhere in your vicinity. We rather hope that nothing fatal has befallen him, but do not know.

How are all the Richardsons & Dea. Hopkins. Tell Dea. Hopkins that Uncle Isaac is very miserable. It is thought that he will not stand it long.

Write soon if you can afford the time.

Yours as ever,

E. F. Weeks

126

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

Old Town, Maine

January 4, 1860

Bro. Albert,

Yours of the 11th ult. came directly to hand. I was glad to hear that you are prospering in business and that you are engaged in a Singing School, which I know you enjoy.

As for myself, my health at present is quite good. I am taking medicine from Dr. Call, from which I have received a great deal of benefit.

You referred to my not going to Damariscott &c. I came so near moving there last fall, that I engaged a store and made arrangement to go into business. Had the most of my goods packed and a day set to move. About that time, I took a violent cold: had inflammation on my right lung, and was pretty slim for a while. I consulted Dr. Coll and others, who advised me to abandon the idea for the present. Consequently, for that reason, (and some others I could give you If I should see you) I did so, altho' I was strongly encouraged by some of the principal men in the place to go. I have no doubt but what I should have had a good trad.

I went to Boston last fall and laid out what money I had in W. I. goods mostly, and am selling them out this winter. What I shall do in the Spring is quite uncertain.

Business here is just as dull as it can be and some times I feel almost discouraged in trying to do any business here, and sometimes I think it is of little consequence where I spend the remainder of this short life, for I often feel that with me time is short and that I am fast nearing the mansions the Saviour told his

disciples he was going to prepare for all those who love him. May I ever feel to adopt those beautiful lines "Give me a calm and thankful heart &c."

There is nothing of special interest with us. The good people made Bro. Kelley a donation visit last evening and left him \$43 in cash and about \$47 in merchandise at prices which made it better than cash. Their is to be a donation visit at Uncle Chisam's two weeks from this evening. I presume there will be a grand rally.

Your Father & Mother, as near as I can learn, enjoy themselves well at Foots*, especially Uncle.

Religious interest here is low, low, low. Meetings on the Sabbath, quite well attended. I expect they will engage Bro. Kelley for another year. He labors hard, and sometimes he tells me he feels a good deal discouraged & I don't wonder if he does.

Emily is well as usual and sends her respects. Albert is well and is going to School. He reads well, is a good speller & is studying arithmetic (mental). When I read your letter, he said he should think if you did not want to see anybody else, you might come up this winter & see him.

I guess the Dr. & Mary Ann are getting along well altho I don't see them very often.

Please write on receipt &c.

Yours,

S. J. Bond

* Erastus Foote Weeks.

Albert Richardson

Oldtown, Maine

Friend Richardson,

Carson City, U. T.

June 15, 1860

I thought it might be interesting to you to know where I am, what I am doing, what I think of the country &c. I arrived at Carson City, April 28, found business lively as far as lumbering and building is concerned, but as for mining, there was but little doing. All was excitement and speculation. Everybody had their pockets full of indications and wanted to sell their claims, any amount of bogus sales for effect.

I looked round a few days. Visited Silver City Gold Hill and Virginia and satisfied myself that it was not all a humbug, but that the country is rich with minerals. I got a job in a saw mill at \$100 a month, with the prospect of having my wages raised. Only two men are employed to run the mill, which makes very heavy work as the logs are large. I worked three days and lamed myself so that I have not been able to do anything since, till yesterday I worked at planting corn and beans. They have just commenced putting in crops here and if the Spring we have had, is any indication of the summer, I would not give much for the crops. The ground was white with frost this morning, and there was ice in a dish of water outside the door, but everyone says it has been an unusual winter and spring. More than ten thousand cattle died with cold and starvation, the past winter in this valley and it is said they have always done well before, without feeding or housing. We have had a few days of very fine weather except rather windy & people feel quite encouraged that we are going to have summer weather, but would not be much surprised if it should snow

tomorrow. The mountains are white with snow in every direction.

The Indian war knocked all business in the head, and a great many have gone back to California because they could get nothing to do and not a few out of fear of the Indians. You no doubt, have learned all the details of the origin of Indian troubles. There has not been much accomplished yet, towards bringing the war to a close, partly for want of means and partly for want of generalship, as I think. Major Ormsby was a very smart enterprising, energetic man and of undoubtable courage, but it was rash and short sighted to attempt to fight the Indians with so small a force. They went some 80 miles into the Indian country. The Indians were prepared for them — they came across some 150 mounted Indians and gave chase to them. The Indians retreated 2 or 3 miles to where there was some hundreds concealed in the brush, and when the little party of 106 got fairly in their midst, they jumped up and gave a most frightful yell and fired upon them. About one-half turned their horses and ran for life, without firing a shot and those that stood their ground and showed fight were mostly killed. The remains of Ormsby was brought in after having been dead 4 weeks and was buried last Sunday with Military honors. Two hundred regular troops came over from California and went out with about 600 volunteers, found the Indians at Pyramid Lake, had a skirmish with them and drove them into the mountains. Three whites were killed and the Indians variously estimated as the Indians carried off their dead and wounded as fast as they fell. The number killed could not be ascertained, but supposed to be from 50 to 75. Some half dozen Indian scalps were brought in — I saw one — The volunteers have all come in for want of supplies and the regulars

are stationed at Pyramid Lake, which is the great stronghold and home of the Pahutes. We are expecting every day to hear that they have been attacked by the Indians. All agree in saying the Pyramid Lake is a most beautiful place and abounds with fish and game. This territory seems to be a resort for black legs and desperadoes of every sort, worse, if possible, than California in its early days.

There have been some half dozen fatal shootings since I have been here and the murderers have all escaped justice, so far. One case I will mention, as it was a little out of the common order of things. A desperado got into quarrel with a man and wife. Threatened to shoot them and fired two shots into their house at them. The man was frightened out of his wits and wanted his wife to leave with him for Cal., to save their lives. She would not do it, but borrowed a revolver and said she would defend herself, took a soft coal and marked out the figure of a man on a board and practised all day at shooting. In the mean time the man was arrested and taken before judge Cradlebaugh for examination. The man and wife appearing as evidence against him. He was put under bonds to keep the peace and would no doubt have been allowed to run at large, but as soon as the court adjourned, the woman walked deliberately up to him, took a revolver from under her shawl and shot him through the heart in the court room. She turned and walked home as cool as though nothing had happened. The man died almost instantly.

Gamblers and desperadoes contrroll this country in a great measure. Still there are many good people here. They begin to talk about organizing a vigilance committee and I think it will have to be done, before good order or safety can be had.

Carson City is located in the valley where it is about two miles wide between the mountains, perfectly smooth and level and the only place suitable for a city on this side of the mountains. Plenty of wood and timber within 3 miles and a good stream of mountain water runs through the city. I believe Carson City will become a place of considerable importance. There is 2 brick yards in operation, plenty of stone suitable for building purposes and any quantity of lime rock of the best quality near at hand. It is said there has been a coal lead lately discovered and if so it will be very valuable for smelting purposes.

I don't know as I shall stop here a month longer but I do know that if I had money, I would not hesitate to invest. There is a great many that came here in the excitement and invested all they had in building when everything was at its highest pitch and now would sell at a ruinous loss or mortgage for money at 5 per cent a month. I am satisfied that as soon as the Indian trouble is settled, there will be a greater rush here than ever, and there will be an immense amount of business done here for it will pay.

People cannot work their claims or go prospecting to any extent, till the war is over. We appreciate no danger in the city, for it is not in accordance with Indian character to attack so large a place as this.

I have been used up with a lame back for four weeks, but am much better. There is a party of us going out prospecting tomorrow, but we are going a different direction from the Indians and where there is no more danger than in Old Town.

I begin to think I have spun this about long enough. Please call on my family, if convenient and say to them that the Indians will not get my scalp yet awhile. Tell them I am not going to join the Mormons

and that I have faith that I shall yet have the good fortune and happiness to return to my family and enjoy their society once more.

My health never was better than at present. I believe this to be a healthy climate.

Please write me direct to San Francisco as it is uncertain how long I shall remain here and I have a friend there to forward to me.

Yours Respectfully,

Solomon Hopkins

128

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Damariscotta, Maine

March 14, 1861

Dear Bro., Albert:

Yours of the 9th inst. I rec'd yesterday.

I have not seen Mr. Pulver, the gentleman to whom I referred in my last, but will now answer your questions, as well as I can, for I shall not be able to visit him again for a week.

His name I have already given — Pulver. He lives at Newark, N. J., and is the man of whom E. M. Avery purchased his drug store. How much "means" he has, I don't know, but have been led to infer that he is quite well to do, as the saying is. Have had some business transactions with him, but not much acquaintance. He made over the stock and fixtures to me, when I loaned Mr. Avery the money. His mill is near the Hudson, in the western part of New York, near 14th Street. That is "up town". Do not know what amount he expects to do, but he thinks there will be quite enough for two men. There are no mills in that part of the city. — "Feed business"? Buying corn & oats, grind-

ing and selling for "horsefeed." There are a great many horses in these cities and they all eat.

I should not go into it, if I were at liberty. Mr. Avery wanted to go into it himself but had not the money. I visited the mills & wrote to you as he requested me to do. Do not doubt but you could make money, but did not think you would like the business, so did not write very particularly.

Business is at a "stand-still" here. All look to see what will be the result of secession. Gov. Houston is opposed to Texas joining the Southern Confederacy, & is said to be raising troops on his own account. Good!

We would like to see you here & are hoping something may turn up. Who are to have the offices in Maine? Have you decided yet? What next?

Very truly,

Asa B.

129

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Oldtown, Maine

Bro. Albert:

Brooklyn,

April 13, 1861

Yours of the 8th inst. has come to hand.

The war has actually commenced, so the papers state this morning. The Southern "brethren" opened their guns upon fort Sumpter yesterday morning. Now may God speed the right.

Apr. 22. — I am shocked to find this has not been sent. We have been so busy with war news & preparations that I quite forget myself & friends. Yesterday, between 4 & 5 thousand troops left N. Y. city. Guns are constantly firing, — even now I hear the booming of cannons.

We have taken the house in Conoll Place, expecting to enlarge — but this war will, I fear, ruin our school. Friends are sending their families into the country, & enlisting.

Where is Maine? Shall we hear from her? Can I have a commission? If not, must go as a private.

Let us hear from you soon. Excuse haste.

Yours,

Asa B.

Good bye — My heart is full. You can hardly judge of the state of feeling here. We are all together now. A paper that should say aught against our government would be thrown into the street, as one has been. Mayor Wood was told that, if he did not come out for the Union, he should hang.

Asa B.

130

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Waldoboro

Old Town, Maine

March 16, 1861

Bro. Albert —

Yours of yesterday I have just rec. Am pleased to hear from you.

I think I would not be in much haste about going into business, unless it was for wages. Matters look quite unsettled to me. I think "Old Abe" has got to fight. Whether it will be with the Abolition portion of his party, or with the Southern Confederacy, I cannot yet tell. The way I read his Inaugural, it is a good Lord & a good Devil. He lays down doctrine strong enough to coerce the South, and spices it over with professions of sufficient love and good will to suit all parties, and then says that the policy there laid down will be pursued unless current events should dictate a different

course. All well enough perhaps, but mighty uncertain. With his acts, so far, I have no reason to find fault. In deciding to abandon Fort Sumpter, I think he has done that that looks best for the whole country. Mighty hard it is true, for many of his political party, who have said so much about treating with traitors.

I look at the matter through political glasses I admit. But I have for a long time been decidedly of the opinion that just as soon as the General Govt. begins to coerce any of the Slave states, even to collect the revenue, from that time, not only the seven states already seceded, but all the slave states, take up resistance at once and espouse it as their cause. I cannot reason otherwise. Their view is, that the Southern states are denied their constitutional rights, and unless these can be guaranteed to them, that the institutions of all the Souther states are in danger — and that the Northern states refuse to give them that guarantee — Whether that belief is true or false, it matters not. It will control their actions until removed.

Now under this view, I do not see how any Slave state can be compelled to fight their southern friends and neighbors — their sympathies are with the South — their suspicions against the North. It is of but little use to speak of constitutional obligations where all the feelings of the people are against it with full power among themselves to carry it out.

With this (my) view of the President's position, I think he must have war with one side or the other. If with the South, we shall have uncertain times for business for some time. Will the President break ground with a part of his friends at the North? Hard work — but if he does, which I think he eventually will, he will want to take all the time for it he can so as to let them down as easily as possible.

Come over and see us when you can.

Yrs. &c.

S. W. Jackson

131

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson

Old Town, Maine

May 27, 1861

Bro. Albert,

Yours has laid too long unanswered.

There is somewhat of a revival in the center district. Bro. Kelly thinks there is a good prospect of a good work there. There has been three baptisms since you left. 7 baptisms in all. Amos Fish, Mrs. Harriet Weeks, Mrs. Nath. Mayhew & her son, Otis Tobey & a Chapman girl whom you do not know. I do not know whether Eld. Kelly intends to leave this section or not. Do not hear him say. Think he had better leave for there is a strong feeling against him. S. J. Bond told me yesterday that that letter has sorrowed a great many who had heard of it. While he is here things are in rather a bad condition on the whole. I do not know what will become of us unless the Lord comes and reconverts the church, as it were. Not to be understood that God converts but once, for we do not believe such doctrine. I was at N. Village last night to meeting, — rather cool & but few there.

Business exceedingly dull, money scarce. War has knocked everything higher than a kite except newspaper reading. I have a different view respecting the abolition of Slavery from you, although do not know but you have the right of it.

It seems to me that the war is not against Slavery or for the abolition of it, but to put down rebellion, sustain the government and protect the property &

enforce the laws, & if so, I can not see what it is to do with the abolition of slavery in the States, but will probably, if government is successful, prevent its spread in territory which is now free. I believe the constitution & the laws protect it in the states where it now exists.

Give respects to all friends.

Respectfully yours,

E. F. Weeks

132

Albert Richardson, Esq. (4 Carroll Place)
 Jefferson, Maine Brooklyn, N. Y. July 28 1861
 Dear Bro. Albert:

Your letter of the 21st inst. was rec'd yesterday.

Our city had two regiments in the late battle at Bull Run, besides parts of several others. Our neighbors have fallen in the greatest contest for the perpetuity of our Republic.

Shall I do no more than I am now doing or have done? Simply help a few with their out-fits & give a few dollars? Is it not my duty to give myself? I have indeed offered my services, and have been informed that the government had more men than they knew what to do with. Does the last sad battle confirm that statement? If it does, then our government is not equal to the emergency. If Gen. Scott cannot, or will not, put a larger army into the field, then let him "step out of the way", and a younger man take his place. Since Buchanan, I have little trust in old men.

The savage & deliberate slaughter of our wounded and helpless men by the Rebel troops, surpasses in hideousness, anything heretofore heard of among civilized foes.

For the last few weeks I have thought of little save the war, still I will be on the look-out. Think I shall go to Washington sometime next week.*

Asa B.

133

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Brooklyn,

Damariscotta, Maine

Jan. 20, 1862

Dear Bro. Albert:

We are always happy to receive letters from you.

We are still teaching, but do not intend to continue in the profession much longer. I have been looking for a good business opening for the last year. I have had a goodly number of meetings with business men in regard to entering actively into business of a mercantile nature. The great trouble I have had to contend with is a too small capital. If I had more brass, for people tell me here that I have not half enough, I might make that take the place of gold — “Gold, gold, yellow, heavy, gold.” I am now examining with some care the Produce, commission business. It is evidently a very safe business for you have the pay, (commission) in your own hands. Dea. Sanford, upon whom I called last Sat. says it is as safe as any business he knows of, and very profitable. The profits would depend upon the consignments and sales.

Mr. Stafford, who is boarding with us this Winter, and with whom I have been talking for months about entering into business relations, has a very large acquaintance in N. Y. state and throughout the West. He says he knows that he can obtain all the consignments

* Asa B. Richardson volunteered to serve in the U. S. Army but was rejected on account of deafness.

to which we can possibly attend. This being the case, the amount of business would depend upon the activity of the house in making sales. Produce is sold at N. Y. in large quantities, frequently before it is removed from boat or barge.

The business on the Mississippi and Ohio rivers being nearly cut off by the slave-holder's war, a very large proportion of the produce of the great West is finding a market at N. Y. The forwarding business is enormous.

What do you think of this? How much can you raise and have at N. Y. by March 1st; and how much in three months after the first of March? Speak out —

If I do not suit myself here, which is the great Produce mart of the world, I should like to take hold with you somewhere else. Perhaps we could go to Boston. I like it here very much & the climate agrees with me, which is a great consideration.

Annie is resolved to go into business "on her own hook", if I continue teaching. Do you know of an active young man who would like to purchase a school worth \$2000 per year? If so, send him on.

Write immediately. I remain,

Yours,

Asa B.

134

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Brooklyn,

Jefferson, Maine

Feb. 25, 1862

Bro. Albert:

Yours of the 10th inst. was duly rec'd, but I have delayed answering that I might be the more definite.

You understand that the business proposed, is the produce-commission business. Receiving consignments

of flour, butter, cheese, hops, apples, potatoes, &c. &c., and selling them on Exchange, for shipment to foreign countries or to Eastern merchants, will be the principal. Now to get consignments, parties must be known in N. Y., and through the western states. Stafford has a large acquaintance in both & can secure consignments.

Now there are plenty, who have money, and are willing to go in with S., because he is so well & favorably known, but they want to put in a large amount & take the lion's share, which would leave a small man like me quite out in the cold. Now can you & I look after the books & sell what Stafford can secure? He had 30 tons of hams offered him the other day, and \$8500 worth of lard. That is the way it would come, in big lumps. I feel that it is in me to sell.

If we can, we might have a firm of our own & leave the big-bugs, that want all the meat, out. Stafford will go with me, because he has given his word & that is a bond. Today S., who is a member of our family, and has been all Winter, said he has some western friends in N. Y. & told them what he was thinking of embarking upon, & they at once offered him a large consignment, as soon as he would say the word. If other parties come in, it will take \$5000 to make one of us a partner. I expect to raise \$1500, as I hope to sell my school this week. By ourselves, for the same amount (\$5000) we could both "go in" & do just about as we might wish. It is not necessary that all the money should be put in at once, only have it known that it would come if wanted.

Now we want you to come on just as quick as you can & see for yourself. Stafford says, "tell him that we will fix up something that is right, and satisfactory" —

If we do not make anything, we need not lose, as the money will be in our own keeping. I think we can make \$10,000 the first year. I want you to see for yourself before you take hold. We can now secure a store at a very low figure.

Let me hear from you just as soon as you can. Stafford is becoming impatient. He says they shall have \$30000 above all liabilities & he would give the whole to be free to use his name.

Come on, we will go into something by ourselves if you do not like this.

Very truly,

Asa B.

135

Albert Richardson, P. P.

Our House,

Damariscotta, Maine

Jefferson Mar. 10, 1862

Professor Richardson:

Dear Sir,— A kind letter from you came to hand some two weeks since, and should have had an earlier answer; but then, you know from experience, it takes anyone fully two weeks to get worked up in this lazy little village.

Jefferson is quiescent — There is positively no news. Occasionally a horse and sleigh pass through the streets, when everyone rushes to the windows, and engages in such speculations as the following: "Wonder who that is? Wonder where he is going? Wonder if that young woman is his wife?" and so forth and so forth.

I got back to this delectable little village in good condition. The afternoon was pleasant, my company ditto, so that everything passed off agreeably. We often

speaking of our visit to Damariscotta as a very pleasant episode, for which, in a large degree, we are indebted to you.

The fum-fums still flourish exceedingly, and the sewing circles are not far behind. Indeed, these two institutions are all that keep society in Jefferson, from stagnation.

The divisions are well attended. We had out a "spontaneous quantity" of crinoline last Friday evening; and have been blessed with very good papers, interesting discussions, and passable music. The two latter departments sadly need your assistance. R. E. Jones is now with us; and he and Chase are on the tapis; your humble correspondent retires to the shade. That Clam supper has not yet come off, but everyone favors the plan, and I doubt not we shall raise the steam in a week or two.

Elder Tilley has not yet been heard from: that is, he has not yet made up his mind to settle here. I think there is not much prospect of his coming to that conclusion soon. Mr. Chase preached at the meeting house last Sunday, and will occupy the same desk next Sabbath. Just now he is all the go in this town. They think he made the world.

Little Albert is quite well, and attends school. Mr. Bond's folks are likewise well, and flourishing "like unto a green bay tree." Samuel has a very fair run of trade, and seems to be in good spirits. He was over to Augusta last week to visit the troops.

Miss Ida is well and happy, and I take the liberty of sending her love to your honorable self, and all friends in Damariscotta. You must come up and see her. She is getting "good enough to eat", and if you do

not come soon, you may be too late.

I am painfully aware of the fact, which must have impressed itself on your mind ere this, that this is a very dull letter. But I am very dull myself today, and such as I set before you is the best I have in the house. This must be my only apology. Write to me, and believe me to be, as ever,

Very Respectfully

Your Friend

E. P. Wilson

Note—Mrs. Ira Wilson, Edwin P. Wilson's mother, was a Young. Her father, who lived in Pemaquid, Maine, and Ruth Richardson, née Young, wife of Abiathar Richardson (b. 1751), were brother and sister.

The Wilson family lived in the first house on the Valley Road (Route 206) in the North Village, Jefferson, Maine.

Edwin P. Wilson and his brother Gowen were Congregationalist ministers.

136

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

Brooklyn, N. Y.

April 21st, 1862

Bro Albert:

We were glad to receive a letter from you.

Senator E. P. Wilson has gone to Boston, expecting to stop there some time. There is a good deal of excitement in relation to the Gold digings in Nova Scotia. Quite a number have gone & more are going soon.

I see by your letter that Asa has sold out his school. I presume he intends to go into business of some other kind.

Good old Bro. Tilley is going to work to repair the Parsonage. I think he gets off some of the best sermons I ever heard. Little Albert is smart. He is wheeling in

wood. He says, "I am a good mind to write to father Richardson & tell him to come home". He often asks how long before you will come back.

Please write again soon.

Yours truly

S. J. Bond

137

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson

Brooklyn, N. Y.

June 8, 1862

Bro Albert,

I received yours 2 weeks ago but went immediately to Boston & have been so busy since, have not found time to write before.

I suppose from your letter that you are in some kind of business, you did not say. What is the name of Asa's firm, what kind of business? How large a business? How many hands employed? How is he likely to succeed? Where is his place of business?

S. J. Bond & I talked when we were in Boston, of taking the boat at night and going to N. Y. and stop one day and back next night, but concluded we could not find you, not knowing where to look in so large a city, therefore, did not go.

The old farm or the old part of it is sold, and the man is on it. Sold to Dwighy A. Carrier of Waltham, Mass. for \$960. Payable \$550 down, has five years to pay the balance, with interest annually. His wife is Eliz. Sproul, a sister to John Meservey's wife. He seems to be a smart stirring man.

We hear that the Maine boys have suffered considerable in some of the late battles which is sad news to us. Three of the prisoners that were taken at the

Bull Run Battle, got hom last week viz Freman Hall, Miles Jackson & a Robinson from New Castle. Local news is very meager here.

Respects to Asa & Annie. Ask them to write.

Write soon!

Respectfully yours,

E. F. Weeks

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

Care of Richardson Brothers & Stafford

Aug 1st 1862

No. 1 Stone Street, N. Y.

My Dear Father,

I have thought of writing to you for a long time, but have been going to school nine weeks, have not lost a single day, and you know that I must have some time to play of course so you must excuse me.

I go to meetings sundays and to sabbath school. Mother is my teacher. We have bought some new sabbath school books and they are very interesting. We are repairing our house it dont look much like home here now. Mother says she is going to have a room finished for you and one for me.

They are enlisting men for the army but I think that I shall not go at present.

Theodore Weeks has been very sick is getting better now. Grandfather and Grandmother are pretty well. I thank you for the pretty paper that you have sent me. My dog grows finely. I think of having his miniature taken with mine.

Father has got a very nice horse. When you come home we will have some tip top rides. I want to see you very much. I hope you will come home soon and play ball with me. I have found my ball. My drum has caved

in. I have broken the beating head so you see that I cant practice drumming much. Sometimes I go up and beat base for Leslie.

Mary Chapmans little girl has been sick with typhoid fever. They did not think she would live but she is better. Give my love to Uncle Asa and Aunt Anna and take a good lot to yourself.

My health has been very good this summer. Mother sends love to you all. She thought of writing in my letter but is very busy this morning and has not time. Says she is greatly obliged for the paper you sent her. Thinks the poetry is very beautiful. You must excuse my writing, I have not written any at school this summer.

Your son,

S. A. Richardson*

139

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson

No. 1 Stone Street, New York

Aug. 25, 1862

Care of Richardson Brothers & Stafford

Brother Albert,

I have delayed to answer for a week.

Was glad to hear from you and your prosperity in business.

Things are about as usual around home, except war. We have raised our quota of the first call and sent them off among whom are John Vinal, Ara D. Linscott, Atwood McCurda, Albert Robinson, and others that you are not acquainted with. The next call is in the 3rd day of Sept. next. There is quite a feeling respecting a draft. We have a town meeting next Wednesday

* Ten years of age.

to see if they can do anything to get volunteers, so as not to draft.

War & drafting is the whole topic of conversation. The news of Pope's having to fall back causes a good deal of excitement and anxiety. The times look dark, but there is a consolation. God rules and holds the reins and all will work out for his glory although we may have to suffer more yet. I have full confidence that God will yet bring order out of this confusion and in such a way and in such time as will be for the best good of his people, — his own glory. So I leave the whole thing there.

Bro. Tilley has a large congregation. Yesterday it looked in the meeting, like an association. He thinks that the standard of piety is rising. Most everybody loves him now. Bro. Kelly has gone into the army, Chaplain of the 6th Maine Regiment.

Dr. Barton quite well. Mrs. Barton one week ago yesterday was taken sick and at 4¼ o'clock, they had a daughter. That I think is quite smart.

The diptheria is prevailing in the North part of the town. There has been several deaths with it up there and one a child of Isaac Plummer.

Write soon, tell Asa to write. Respects to all.

Yrs. &c.

E. F. Weeks

140

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

No. 1 Stone Street, New York

Nov. 8, 1863

Care of Richardson Brothers & Stafford

Sunday Evening

Bro. Albert:

If I recollect right, I am in debt to you for a letter so I will try and pay it so that I shall get another.

We are well at present, (that is, our little family) and the most of our connections are well, although it is very sickly in this place and vicinity.

The Diphtheria is still raging amongst us. Rufus Robinson lost a daughter last week. Geo. E. Jackson & Elijah Bastow also lost a child each. Horace Chapman's little girl, (Estelle,) died last Wednesday and he and his wife are sick with the same disease (diphtheria). It is somewhat doubtful if Horace will recover. Their has been a great many deaths this season, — some 75 in the limits of this society, & still there are quite a number sick. It is really a solemn time with us.

Today the funeral sermon of Leander Jackson, (Wm C's son) who died at Mount City, Ill. in U. S. Hospital, was preached. His Regiment were obliged to leave him on their way home and about two weeks since his folks got news of his death, Orlando Robinson, (Chas. Robinson's son) was left at the same time & place and died about the same time or a little before. His funeral sermon is to be preached next Sabbath.

Emma Noyes died with Diphtheria about two weeks ago. So death has become so common, that it is only given but a passing notice and those who die are soon forgotten (that is, by the Multitude).

R. Elvin Jones and a number of others intend to start for California tomorrow morning. Elvin, if he likes, intends to locate there, so we are continually undergoing changes — some leaving for other parts, some going into the Army, and some passing away by death. Sometimes I think it don't make much difference where we are, if we can do good to our fellow men, for of late the things of earth, to me seem of less and less importance and the christians prospects appear to grow brighter and more to be desired, for truly there

is nothing on earth upon which we can place our affections or build our hopes with any certainty of its remaining.

Religious interest with us is low but still we have some who continue to pray for the upbuilding of God's cause. We had a very good prayer-meeting this evening. Old Aunt Rowell was there and talked good.

Little Albert is very well at present. I think his health has not been so good for a long time as it is now. He says he will write a few lines in the morning if he has time, but wishes to be particularly remembered to father Richardson.

Emily sends her best respects. We should all like to see you.

Albert stays in the store with me the most of the time, and I tell you he is smart.

Remember me to Asa & wife. Write soon!

Yours truly,

S. J. Bond

141

Mr. Albert Richardson

Jefferson

1 Stone Street, New York

Nov. 21, 1862

Care of Richardson Brothers & Stafford

Bro Albert,

The answer to yours has been delayed for the reason that S. W. J. went on to your place so soon, I thought I could not say anything new.

Brother Tilley well, with his sleeves rolled up to the shoulder; he is flying round now to have the gallery in the meeting house torn out, and a low one put in for singers. Guess he will succeed. He preaches better & better, corners all square, points very sharp and polish-

ed. Meetings well attended on the Sabbath. Conferences thinly attended. Have some good prayer meetings at N. Village, had a very good one last sabbath with some feeling, I thought.

While we have these pleasant things, there are other things that are more sad, such as the state of our country &c. Death has been doing his work at a rapid pace in our society within the last two months. On Punk Point there have been six died of diptheria, three of Thaddeus Moody's daughters from the ages of 15 to 24, Ira Week's son 20, Andrew Rice's daughter 20, Will Rice's daughter about 35, and a child of James Moody's. Most all the people on the point have had it, old & young. They are all doing well now. Sam Nash & John Hall's families on the east side of the Pond have it, 4 of Nash's & one of Dea. Halls. Do not know how it will turn with them yet.

Amos Shepherd's eldest daughter has been very sick the last four weeks with typhoid fever. They thought for several days that each hour would be the last of life with her, but it has proved otherwise. She is getting along quite well now, as they think, and has or seems to have, a fair chance to get well again.

Old Uncle Jo Jackson, as we called him, has died while S. W. was in N. Y. Mrs. Ephraim Weeks was buried last Wednesday. When she died, a christian left the church & the world, one that was universally loved & will be missed very much.

Uncle Ephraim seems very calm and patient, but probably feels he has met with a loss that cannot be made up. I suppose he feels the assurance that "she is not lost — but gone before". Bro. Timothy Shepherd feels that he is soon to lose his wife also. We are expecting everytime we hear from there that she is gone to

her rest also. She is a great sufferer, but waiting with patience till her time shall come, with the assurance in her own mind that when she shall go she shall only leave the church on earth to join the church triumphant in heaven.

William Tibbett's wife, another member of our church, is expecting to leave the church militant to join the church triumphant. So you see the church is thinning out. How great the need of more earnest prayer for the ingathering of souls to the church!

Respects to Asa & Annie.

Respectfully yours, &c.

E. F. Weeks

142

Mr. Albert Richardson
1 Stone Street, New York

Jefferson, Me.
Feb. 1863

My dear Father,

I received your letter and present and was much pleased with them. I think that is a great present for a little boy like me to have. I hope I shall be a good boy. I thank you father.

I am going to school trying to learn all I can. We have a nice teacher a student from Waterville Colledge. His name is Littlefield. He boards with us. We like him very much. He helps me cipher evenings and plays with me as you used to. We have some real good times I tell you. I got the papers you sent me. Think you are very kind to send them. I think of you every day and shall be very glad when you can come and stay a long time with us.

My health has been very good this winter. I have not lost a day's school yet. Mother sends her love. Says

she should be very happy to see you. Thanks you for the good papers that you have sent. Her Aunt Clara sends her respects to you. Grandfather and Mother are as well as usual.

Your son

Albert

143

Mr. Albert Richardson

New York

Jefferson, Maine

April 11, 1863

Dear Uncle

By Uncle Asa's particular request, I write to you this A. M. He is very buisy making returns & writing letters so as to close up at 3 p.m., by request of the Mayor to attend a great Union League meeting to be held at Union Square. I can see a great notice of it on the old shed opposite, just abaft the swill box.

Mr. Stafford is away in the country rooting round & daming here and there trying to flow the Consignments into R.Br.S' channel. Uncle Asa had notice of a lot of Corn (about 13000 Bsh) to be sent by Greenman & Butter of Buffalo. The sample has arrived. Stafford wants great pains taken in the sale of it. There is another new house sending in eggs also (Moore & Cole) & by appearances I guess we shall have about all we want to do. We had 2 or 3 days ago, a lot of Ducks come in, forty five pounds. It flooded the market & we couldn't sell till this A.M. & then we had to go to Brooklyn. We had a lot of Flour come in from Little Falls, 28 Bbls. Mr. Stafford says he has made arrangements with two or three mills & that we can have it come right along by making quick returns & he says also that they dont want to draw to any great extent. He expected I guess to draw on the Damariscotta B.

The World Company have sold the house & Uncle expects to move about the first of May nothing preventing. All the friends are well &c. I have been running round two or three days collecting bills & drumming up hop buyers. How I have succeeded remains to be seen. Uncle says this is all. Sends his regards & I send mine. Love to Sister, babies &c. &c.

Yours in haste,

Abbott (Richardson)

144

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

Care of Richardson Brothers & Stafford

June 17, 1863

No. 1 Stone Street, N. Y.

Bro. Albert

In order to get a letter from you, I shall have to scribble a few lines.

We are having very cold weather for this time of year. Last night had quite a severe frost and it is still cold today. Uncle Jonathan & Aunt are in town, and are both looking first rate. They expect to stop some two weeks. They say folks all well in Old Town.

It is pretty sickly here at the present time. Clara Kincaid is very sick with fever. Yesterday she was not expected to live during the day but this morning is a little better. She was to have commenced the School here two weeks ago, so we are disappointed in a Teacher as yet.

Albert is at work on the road. He teased me this morning to let him go and drive oxen. Said the Surveyor would allow him as much as any of the boys, so I told him to go and enjoy it.

Dr. Putnam has lost two daughters with Diptheria & there is quite a number of children in that neighborhood now sick with the same.

We have quite an interesting Sabbath School. R. E. Jones is Superintendant. I think there are indications of good, in our S. School & Meetings. Last Sabbath evening we had a very interesting Meeting. There seemed to be a good deal of feeling among the young people. I hope we may see them converted. Bro. Tilley continues to preach good sermons. Uncle Jonathan said he never heard such a sermon as he preached last Sabbath. Mrs. Tilley has been quite sick, but is now better.

Remember me to Asa & wife & also to Abbott. Write soon.

Yours truly,

S. J. Bond

145

Mr. Albert Richardson	Waldoboro
Care of Richardson Brother & Stafford	June 18, 1863
No. 1 Stone Street, New York	
Bro. Albert —	

Yours of the 15th came to hand today and I was very glad to hear from you.

In a business point of view, there seems to be something doing here. Some half dozen vessels building, of good size, labor scarce and wages high.

The War clouds hanging over us, look dark, but I am glad to see the large armies on the move. We may well have the matter brought to some more definite point at once, as not. It must come, and the sooner we can be placed in the offensive, in my opinion, the better. We have armies enough if they were properly aroused,

to end this war without much more delay. But while it is carried on on Southern soil alone, and many of those most deeply interested, making money out of it, and ten thousand politicians anxious to inscribe their names on the everlasting scrolls of fame, the prospect looks mighty dark, I think.

I cannot understand why the rebels should leave their strongholds and come North unless necessity compels them to do it. It looks to me that now is the time for us to strike a decisive blow if we ever can do it. For while are treading up Pennsylvania, Ohio &c., if that wont arouse the energies of these States and New York, it is no use to try to do it. So I say punch away Jeff — and to Abe — now's your time. So much for the war —

Written between daylight & dark as you must judge by the ideas held out.

Respects to all — Write soon.

Yours as ever,

S. W. Jackson

146

Albert Richardson, Esq. Jefferson
Care of Richardson Brothers & Stafford July 27, 1863
No. 1 Stone Street, N. Y.

Bro Albert: —

I embrace the present opportunity to answer yours of the 10th inst., which I received and read with pleasure. Not that I was glad to hear of a riot, but was glad to hear of some of the particulars of its character. You must have had an exciting time during its progress.

The draft here has been the occasion of some talk,

but no violence threatened, save in Waldoboro, but I guess it will amount to nothing but talk. They drafted out of this town 61 out of which to get 40, the quota required. Jos. J. Bond, Wm Albert Jackson, John Meservey, Wm Noyes, Geo. Hallowell & Percival Oliver were drafted from this School District.

It is very sickly here this season. Clara Kincaid of whom I wrote you last, is recovering. Mrs. Gilmon Hatch buried her little boy last Thursday. He died on Tuesday. Emma Shepherd is very sick with diptheria, not expected to recover.

While I was writing, some two hours ago, I was called to go and see Arad Linscott die; but before I reached the house he was gone. He was badly wounded in the battle of Gettysburg, arrived home a week ago last Friday. He was apparently pretty smart, but the fatigue of his journey home brought on inflammation & fever which terminated his life.

Dr. Barton is quite sick. He has been very much driven in his business of late. Got a bad cold in his lungs, and is about caved in.

Albert's health, for the last month, has been poor. He took a bad cold some four or five weeks ago, on his lungs, and has had a bad cough since. He also has had a sore in his head which has been running now for some days, but I think on the whole, he is better but still quite feeble. I don't know but we had better take him to the salt water, but Dr. Barton thinks it would not be of any benefit to him. We shall take the best care of him that we can.

Yours truly,

S. J. Bond

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

No. 1 Stone Street, New York, N. Y.

July 30/63

Care of Richardson Brothers & Stafford

Bro. Albert,

Yours of the 27th has just arrived. I was very glad to receive it for we had felt quite anxious to hear from Abbott. Was relieved to hear that he was better, though very sick yet.

It seems as though the Lord was visiting us by his judgments in this place. Sometimes I think perhaps the Lord will have to send mourning to every house, as he did anciently, before we shall become humbled as a nation.

It is a time of mourning and lamentation in this place now. We are being chastized if not humbled as a people, in our society. This week three members of our division have died. viz: Arad Linscott came home wounded from the army and soon died, the particulars of which I suppose S. J. Bond has written you as I saw a letter pass along from him to you. He died Monday morning & his grave was hardly covered before we heard that Ella Ames, John S's 2nd daughter, the one that sung alto, had passed away. She died yesternight, Thursday. Had been sick about 3 weeks. Was first taken with inflammation of the bowels which terminated in typhoid fever. She suffered very much through her sickness. Tomorrow noon her remains are to be laid away with the silent dead. Then again came the news that Emma Shepherd, Amos's daughter died this morning at 6 o'clock with diptheria. She was sick about one week during which it is said by those who took care of her, she suffered the most intense agony. She is to be buried tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock. So

you see that it is indeed a time of mourning. I have heard her speak of Christ's love, and her hope in him, which is a great consolation to all. My desire, I think, is that the Lord may & will sanctify these bereavements, not only to the bereaved, but to the community in which they lived.

Dr. Barton has been laid by for 3 or 4 days, is some better now. Has had so much riding to do, has overdone himself and has got a very bad cold. Mary Ann and her children are as well as usual.

Yours

E. F. Weeks

148

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

No. 1 Stone Street, New York, N. Y.

Sept. 7, 1863

Care of Richardson Brothers & Stafford

Bro. Albert,

I thought I would drop you a line this morning.

It is a time of mourning in Jefferson now. There is, or has been, quite a large amount of sickness and death in the town of late. Since I last wrote you, Mrs. Lorin Hofses has died of diptheria, was buried one week ago yesterday. The next day Mary Ellen Heyer, Laura's sister, died of the same. We felt it hard to let her go, but have nothing to say, for the Lord cannot do wrong, nor does he willingly afflict any of the children of men. Since her death Elijah Barstow, Nath. Davis, Theo. Miller & Franklin Robinson have each of them lost a child with the same disease. Mrs. Rufus Robinson is sick with the same, also Alden Kennedy's wife and one of Sewall's boys. He told me that he did not know but the Lord was going to take them all from him, but says he knows the Lord will not do wrong,

says let the will of the Lord be done. So you see he is in a good place to bear affliction.

Benj. Ladd has had his leg amputated, & it is not doing as well as it ought to do in order to recover. They think the disease is in his blood. Therefore they have fears that he will not recover. He had a good hope and is calm & resigned.

The diptheria is raging fearfully at North Waldo-boro, so you see that in life we are in the midst of death. Then how important to be found on the Lord's side.

The state of religion is low in this place, although our meetings on the Sabbath are well attended, prayer & conference meetings thinly. There is considerable excitement about other things, yet I think there are some that I know, who are anxious to enter into the kingdom, and are saying with Job of old "Oh! that I knew where I might find him."

Bro. Litchfield is in this place at Dr. Barton's. His wife has been pretty sick, is better now. I like him very much; he is so affectionate and familiar, ready to talk at all times on any subject, but Christ & religion is his theme. He preached to us yesterday afternoon. His text was, "Unto you therefore, which believe he is precious." Then he preached — I tell you he had his soul and, I think, body too in his subject. I tell you there were a great many tears shed. As hard as my heart is, I could not refrain from weeping when he described the preciousness of Jesus. Oh, how good it was to be there when such hard hearts as mine & Geo. Weeks also, are brought to weep. There must be some power of some kind. All was sorry to have him sit down.

I attended the association one day. Had good meeting in the P. M. Another of those weeping sermons, the

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

New York, N. Y.

Nov. 25, 1863

Care of Richardson Brothers & Stafford

Bro. Albert,

Yours was duly received & I hasten to answer.

Our family are as well as usual now, but I do not know how long they will be so. The diphtheria prevails here considerable. The same day I wrote you, Capt. Horace Chapman's daughter died with it. She was buried on Friday. That night Mr. Chapman & his wife were both taken down with the same. He, Mr. Chapman, died in five days after he was taken. Mrs. Chapman has got quite smart now. The Old Lady Chapman has had quite a run of the same. Emily* Bond was taken down a week ago last Sunday. She has been very sick, and is yet, but they have hopes that she is a very little better. Hope she will get over it.

It is raging fearfully in Waldoboro village I learn. Alden Ames told me, since I began to write, that he was there yesterday and learned that there were some 5 to 7 sick in a family with it & some dead and others that they thought would not live. S. W. Jackson's family were well yesterday, so far as he heard. Mr. John Ames died yesterday.

Government has called on our town for 31 more boys for the war. We had a town meeting yesterday & voted to give men \$300 each, to enlist until our quota is filled. Some five or six have already enlisted.

Joseph Hofses & Roxa Jones were made one flesh one day last week, and I learn that Miles Meservey

* Mrs. S. J. Bond.

Jr. & Eliz. Bond are to be made so tomorrow.

Respects to Asa & Annie. It is now mail time.

Yours in haste

E. F. Weeks

151

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

Care of Richardson Bros. & Stafford

Dec. 4, 1863

No. 1 Stone Street, New York

Bro. Albert:

I have just received your letter and hasten to answer. I am happy to say that Emily is slowly recovering from her sickness. She was taken sick two weeks ago last Saturday night and continued to grow worse all day Sunday. Monday morning I called the Dr. who pronounced it Diphtheria in a bad form. She continued very sick for a week or 10 days, during which time we felt very anxious for the result was uncertain, but through the goodness of God, her life has been spared.

Albert has had the same disease in a light form. He began to complain a week ago last Wednesday evening, but we thought perhaps it might be a common sore throat — but the Dr. the next morning pronounced it the diphtheria. We doctored him very closely & he kept about the house every day so that he is nicely now. Has been to the Store a part of the time today. I tell you bro. Albert, I hope I feel thankful to God for his loving kindness toward us and I don't know as I ever had more confidence in God, then I do now, for I believe he will do all things right. I want to feel reconciled to his will.

The Diphtheria is raging in Waldoboro. Mr. Reed has lost one child and a large number in other families

are sick. Young Jos. Black died last Monday & was buried yesterday.

Benjamin Ladd has got quite smart so that he is out about. E. P. Wilson is in Cambridge Port, Mass. R. E. Jones was defeated & Deshan elected Representative on the account of James Hall (Punk Point) working against him — he wanted the nomination and failed to get it. Consequently, worked against us. R. E. has gone to California.

I will write you soon again.

Yours in haste

S. J. Bond

152

Albert Richardson

Jefferson

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Dec. 27, 1863

My Dear Father

I thought when I wrote you last that I should be quite a penman by this time. I had commenced taking lessons of Uncle Horace but he was taken sick and died when his School was half done so you see that I have not improved much. I should have written to you last Sunday but was sick with a cold and did not feel able to write. I am quite well now, able to be about my business as usual.

Our School commenced two weeks ago. I think we have a fine teacher he opens his school by prayer every morning. I study arithmetic and geography and think some of studying grammar.

I received the Christmas present you sent me and was very much pleased with it. I did not spend it but laid it away with the other one you sent me. I thank you Father for it — hope I shall be a very good boy to pay for it.

Mother is getting better slowly. Sets up most of the time but is not able to do much. Father has gone to meeting and the girl has gone away today so I thought I would stay at home and take care of her.

I want to see you Father very much but feel as though I could not have you come and stay a short time and go back, I rather wait till you can come and stay a long time. Mother sends much love to you and would be very glad to see you but feels as I do about your coming says she cant be satisfied with a short visit from you. Says she thanks you for your many prayers and kind wishes and would like to write in my letter but can't see to write or read a single word it has been three weeks since her eye sight failed.

I dont skate much this winter. Father and Mother think it is not best as I am not very strong. Grand mother and father are as well as usual. I dont think of anything more to write.

Yours truly,

S. A. Richardson*

153

Mr. Albert Richardson

Waldoboro

Care of Richardson Bros. & Stafford

Jan. 14, 1864

No. 1 Stone Street, N. Y.

Dear Brother,

All of my family have gone to hear a Temperance lecture to be delivered by Rev. Mr. Cushman of Warren, excepting Abbie; she has not been very well.

This is the reason why I take this Eve to answer your kind and very welcome letter. Received it Thurs-

* Twelve years old. He refers to Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Bond as father and mother.

day evening last, I was at home in Jefferson when E. F. Weeks received your letter and picture, for a moment it seemed you were present with us. Told them I should have one too. Came home to Waldoboro Thursday. I sent Ellen to get me my letter with Uncle Albert's picture. Could you have seen the joy expressed by my little girls when I opened your letter, you would have laughed outright. You have heard how unwell Mother has been. When they sent for me, Dr. Barton said she might die at any moment. She is better.

There is and has been much sickness here this winter. Mr. Tibbetts had four children dead in the house at one time. Mr. Kaler buried Ella. Only our garden separated them from us. Augusta Miller has been very sick and Willie Atwell quite sick, still we are spared. These are our nearest neighbors.

Mr. J. Reed lost his oldest daughter. These are but few compared with the many that have died. Diphtheria is truly a scourge.

In haste,

Lorinda Jackson

154

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

Care of Richardson Bros, & Stafford January 28, 1864

No. 1 Stone Street, New York

Bro. Albert —

I spend a few moments to answer your last, which was received, and for which you have our thanks.

We are getting along pretty comfortably at present. Emily is gaining slowly, she has regained her eye-sight somewhat, but has partly lost the use of her limbs, so that she makes a pretty poor fist of walking. Albert has been sick with a cold and sore throat so that

he had to stay out of School a few days but is now quite smart, so that he is going to School again.

Uncle Isaac Hofses died last Monday Evening & was buried Wednesday. He died very happy. About his last words were "precious rest, all is bright beyond". Bro. Tilley preached his funeral sermon. His text was "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints" and I tell you it was a good one. Their was a donation visit to Bro. Tilley a week ago this evening. Receipts amounted to over \$100. The old gentleman felt pretty well pleased.

Dr. Barton has gone to Old Town. His family has been gone some five weeks on a visit.

Our Maine Reg'ts are about to leave Augusta for the seat of War. The 29th infantry will go to Texas as also the Cavalry. It is not known where the 30th Reg. & Batery will go. The boys from here are just home on a furlough and are in tip top spirits & say they want to go a little further South so they can see the Elephant. Poor fellows, I hope they will see him but only to see him die.

Albert has just gone to School — Says he will write you soon, for he supposed he should not get another letter from you until he answered your last.

Emily sends her regards, says she would write if she could hold her pen.

Yours truly,

S. J. Bond

Albert Richardson Esq.
 Care of Richardson Bros. & Stafford
 No. 1 Stone Street, N. Y.

Jefferson
 Mar. 4th 1864

Bro. Albert: —

We are all well at present. Albert was quite sick two days last week. He was taken vomiting about 4 o'clock in the morning and continued to vomit till 9 in the evening, but next morning was better and is now as well as usual. Emily has got pretty smart so that she does her own work with Albert's help.

It is pretty healthy in this part of the town at the present time although there has been quite a number of deaths amongst us of late. There has been some fifty cases of Small Pox in the west part of the town of late. Old Mr. Nathan, and Dea. Richard Boynton died with it last week, but I understand the rest are all getting better.

The Damariscotta quarterly meeting commenced last Tuesday at the Week's School house and continues yet. I understand it has been a melting time amongst them and the meeting will continue during this week. Mr. Evens from Damariscotta, preached here a week ago last Sunday. He stopped with us and we enjoyed the visit much. He said he thought you missed it by not stopping at Damariscotta this Spring, that the influence that was worth anything was all in your favor. He said that Belcher was there this winter & wanted to preach but he (E.) demured. He said he told Belcher's friends there that he couldn't preach in his pulpit. I think he did just right.

Henry K's second boy, Gilbert, has gone into the Army. He went to Augusta to see the Cavalry and the first intimation his folks had of his going, he sent his

clothes home, had enlisted, was sworn into the service, had put on his uniform & mounted his horse. His Father & Mother feel badly about it, but I guess they will let him go and try it. Austin Linscott's second boy has gone into the same Company with Gilbert. Wm Weeks & Chas. Linscott also have each, a boy in this same Regiment. The war is drawing hard on the young men. I hope we shall soon see the end.

Albert is very anxious to see you and is looking for Spring to come when he thinks you will be at home. I tell him that probably you will make us a visit this Spring & Summer but he says he wants you to stay where he can see you.

Emily sends her best respects.

Yours truly,

S. J. Bond

156

Albert Richardson, Esq.

March 29, 1864

Care of Richardson Bros. & Stafford

No. 1 Stone Street, New York

My dear Father,

I have been thinking of answering your kind letter for some time but have neglected it from week to week till I guess you think I have forgotten you. But I will now try and write a little something if it ain't so bright.

We are having fine weather here the roads are as dry as summer, and if you was at home we could go to Waldoboro because we have got a nice steady colt we would have a nice time I tell you. My health is very good for me. My humor troubles me some. I have not much to do at present for we have not had but very little School this winter our master was taken sick and was obliged to leave and we got another one but

he did not give very good satisfaction and closed quite abruptly. Our summer term commences next June. I shall be glad when it commences for I want to resume my studies for when I am going to School I like to study but when at home it seems hard work for me to stay in the house and study.

Part of the time I am round the store and part of the time get in wood and part of the time play. I believe in the old saying "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy".

I hope you are a coming home soon. I want to see you very much. It seems a very long time since I have seen you. I receive the Harpers you send me for which I am greatly obliged. I want you to write me as soon as you get this.

Yours truly,

S. A. R.*

157

Albert Richardson, Esq.
112 Broad Street, New York, N. Y.
Care Richardson Brother & Co.
Bro. Albert,

Jefferson
May 30, 1864

I have but a moment to write, & but little to say just now.

We are all enjoying usual health, Are, or have been, having a great amount of wet, so people have not got done planting yet. Had a lovely day yesterday in several senses. It was clear, the sun shone beautifully, the wind northerly and down at Thomas Week's there was assembly, from 3 to 400 people to witness the ordinance of baptism, when five willing & seemingly

* Samuel Albert Richardson.

happy converts went down into the waters of baptism viz: Benj. Ladd & wife, Lucinda Hatch, Ellen Linscott & Abby Jones. One week ago yesterday Bro. Tilley baptized eleven in the Weeks neighborhood, making 50 in all that have been baptized this season and the work is still going on and widening. They had some powerful meetings in the Trask meeting house last week & there seems to be quite a moving round the head of the Pond yesterday, many seemed solemn, many weeping and some rejoicing. Bro. Tilley feeling complete. He, Bro. Tilley, said, when I told him you sent him your respects, he should like to hear from you by pen & ink.

Bro. Evens of Damariscotta stopped with us last night on his way to Waterville. He feels strong in the faith that there is going to be a work of grace at Scotta. He says he has been burdened for weeks past; first for himself, 2nd for the Church, 3rd for sinners. Such striving & Agony, he never before witnessed in himself, and many of his church the same. He says he feels that he has strived too much to make great sermons on which he could not be blessed. He depended on his own strength. He says he knows it now, and has felt compelled to confess to God & also his people. He is in an excellent state of mind now, relying wholly on the spirit & power of God & his promise. So you see, while God sees fit to suffer the nation to mourn, he, in his great mercy, is humbling his children and drawing them to him in prayer & humble supplication & in answer to prayer is blessing his people and converting sinners. Oh! the goodness of God. It seems as though his goodness ought to lead men everywhere to repent.

You say you would like to be where you could work for the Saviour. I should think you might find work enough in that direction in N. Y.

Hope to see you face to face soon. We are looking for you home now, in about two weeks. Hope we shall not be disappointed.

Chester Meserve died very suddenly last week. Was taken Tuesday with diptheria and died Friday.

Respectfully

E. F. Weeks

158

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson, Maine

Bro. Albert:

Old Town

Oct. 22, 1864

Your letter of the 17th rec'd. You were expected at the convention. They had a great time. I supposed you would know the time, or I would have given you notice, as it was I wrote the day I received yours, asking the time of the session.

I have closed the trade for the Mile Square that we looked at, also for 800 acres in No. 3 & 1 & A & B on the North, as you will see by the description in deed. I send the mortgage and notes inside, to be signed & acknowledged, will you do it & return as soon as convenient. I paid $\frac{1}{4}$ down \$500 & 12 & 3 years for bal., as you will see by the notes. I paid the interest, or what accrued, & had all put together dated 15 Oct. 1864.

Truly,

H. Richardson

159

Albert Richardson, Esq. No. 112 Broad St. New York
 Jefferson, Maine Nov. 15, 1864

Bro. Albert:

Have been intending to write you for several days, but it has been quite impossible save on Sunday.

We had to work hard in Brooklyn before election. I was out almost every evening for two weeks, sometimes till 1½ o'clock a.m. We knew by that time (1½ o'clock) last Wed. morning that the Union party were triumphant. Between 12 & 1 o'clock, when we began to get telegrams of Returns from the western states, the news was so glorious that Dr. Spear's son-in-law went home to tell the old Dr. He had retired & was asleep, but when aroused & told the news, he said: "I will get up & go to the hall & help rejoice." He came in & made such a speech as few men can make. Our meeting took a religious turn & we all praised God, by singing, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow" &c. — to the tune of Old Hundred. It was a scene never to be forgotten.

We heard from California yesterday. She has given some 25000 for the Union. I should like to write a whole day upon this subject, but pressing business forbids.

I called at the S. Brooklyn Saving Inst. The cashier says you can draw your money whenever you wish. They have no accounts with Eastern Banks. We can send check on Boston, if that will answer. Or we can take the money & give a certified check, which will be good anywhere. You will be obliged to lose interest if you withdraw before Jan'y 1st.

There is no good talking about Stafford's sacred promises. There is nothing sound with him & what is

the use talking about him or his promises. If you want him reminded, write him yourself. When I talk with him I wish to demand immediate payment of one-third & if he refuses, then give it to Townsend at once. What say you to that?

Write often & let me know all the news. The Dear old man did a noble act in going to the poles & voting against treason.*

Very sincerely yours

Asa B.

160

Albert Richardson, Esq.

No 112 Broad St., N. Y.

Warren, Maine

March 30, 1865

Bro. Albert:

Yours of the 21st & 24th duly received. Well you "have gone and done it, & that right quick."** You need say nothing in commendation of the lady you have married. We have known her too long, and esteemed her too highly, to allow even you to say one word. I congratulate you most sincerely, and bid her a hearty welcome into our family. May God bless you both.

Very sincerely,

Asa B.

161

Mr. Albert Richardson

Sat. Morn.

Warren, Maine

April 15, 1865

My Dear Bro. Albert:

Do ascribe a part of my delay in answering your

* Justus Richardson, voted for Abraham Lincoln, second term.

**Albert Richardson married Eliza Ann Kennedy March 18, 1865.

kind letter, to astonishment at the amazing news it contained.

Now Albert, you have not gone and done anything in a hurry, have you? Remember that marriage is an important event in life, only the very young are expected to rush into that state, without due deliberation. Were you afraid that when the roads became passable, that other suitors would rush in, and carry off the lady who honors you with her hand?

I must confess to being entirely off my guard, respecting you, and it is now too late for investigation. My office is at an end, and I relinquish the charge to better hands. It only remains to me, to wish you both more happiness than you anticipate, and to invite you to present our new sister as soon after we get settled as possible, at the "Castle" near corner of Eighth St. & 5th Avenue, Brooklyn.

Yours affectionately,

Annie C. Richardson

162

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Warren, Maine

Bro. Albert,

Jefferson,

October 24, 1865

As Emily has just brought in a note to be forwarded to you, I will drop a line or two to let you know what I have been doing for the last few days.

I had my Store broken into last Thursday night. In the morning I found the lock bored out with a bit and all my dry goods, tobacco, Yankee-notions gone. I immediately started, and before night I got on their track. Saturday morning I started for a warrant, notified Mr. Donell (who had his Store broken into the Saturday night before) and got home just at night with

an officer & two men from Whitefield. I took four good fellows from here, proceeded to North Waldoboro and before midnight had arrested two of the supposed theives. The next morning, Sunday, as soon as light, we started again with 10 good fellows from Jefferson & Whitefield & searched house and woods until about noon. We found a part of my goods & also Mr. Donall's in the woods in the east part of North Waldoboro. We have had four condemned, one a woman, gone to jail. The other three got bonds \$200 each. The ringleader, whose name is Mink, got away. We telegraphed to all the Steamboat landings & R. R. Stations & I have just heard he was arrested last night in Rockland.

I have not time to write more. Folks are all well.

Yours in haste,

S. J. Bond

163

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

Warren, Maine

Dec. 28th 65

Dear Father & Mother —

I received your pretty presents Christmas Eve. You were very kind to think of me. I thank you many times. The book is very interesting indeed. I have read it partly through. I have worn my scarf once and find it just what I needed. It is now school time and I must go. We are having a fine school. R. E. Jones is our teacher. Good bye. I hope to see you soon.

Yours truly,

S. A. Richardson

164

Albert Richardson, Esq.
 Warren, Maine
 Bro. Albert,

New York,
 Feb. 9th 1866

Have not heard from you for a long time. Presume you are singing so much that you find little time to write. Hope you will not mind my seeming negligence in writing. I have some sixty (60) letters to write per week, besides selling the Hops & a thousand other cares. We have nearly 400 Bbls of Hops now on hand. Have an order from St. Louis for all the "primes", but as they now owe us over \$3000, we hesitate about shipping now, till we get remittances. Fancy Hops are selling at 65 c. & some lots have sold as high as 70c. Our country friends have all done well this season, as far as we know. We have paid as high as 60c to fill orders.

Butter is dull. Have some 60 pkgs. of commission Butter on hand, but not a pkg, of our own.

Your Christmas presents were beautiful indeed.

Very truly,

Asa B.

165

Mrs. Eliza A. Richardson
 Warren, Maine

Old Town
 Monday, Nov. 26, 1866

Dear Sister Eliza:

Dr. Barton & Mary Ann came home about two weeks ago. Dr. is very feeble, not able to go out much — has a hard cough. We were doubtful of his ability to get here, but he stood the journey quite well. Salome went to Biddeford three weeks ago — called on Dr. at Benton & arranged for them to come home

with her, but he was unable to come on the day of her return. A day or two after, they came.

Salome sends her kind regards & says, "Let me hear from you — do. Wish A. would write Dr. B. It would beguile a lonely moment & he is greatly interested in all his friends. He has gone to his bed, or he would have a word to send.

Truly yours,

H. Richardson

166

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Old Town

Warren, Maine

Tuesday Feb. 5, 1867

Brother Albert,

Your letter of Jany. 11 to Dr. Barton was received by him & he thanks you for the great interest you manifest for him. Poor Dr. He is unable, & has been since its recpt. to answer it, & a few days ago requested me to do so for him. No one that I have ever known feels more kindly towards his friends, altho' he may not express so much; as such is Dr. Barton. You know him, & I need say no more.

He is very low & feeble this morning, entirely unable to assist himself, can scarcely raise a hand. We have to turn him in bed & assist every move. He has taken nothing yesterday or today but a little ice water & a few drops of a preparation of opium.

Yesterday he said to me, "I am not afraid to die. What a stupendous farce this poor suffering life would be, if there were no better life beyond. I have a good hope." These he said of his own accord & as his strength would permit, at intervals. Then said, "Do you not think one has ground for hope, if they feel to trust & love God?" He was overcome by his feelings

& wept — asked me to wipe his eyes, and said — “I don’t weep because I am afraid to die; No, ’tis when I think of parting with those I love.” He seems perfectly clear & calm in his mind, has made all his arrangements and waits with patience, God’s time for his release.

We cannot expect him to continue but a very short time. I wish you could see him for a few moments. He has great distress in the bowels, after taking any nourishment.

Mary Ann is as well as you could expect under this care & affliction. Mrs. Wheelwright is here, & has been for several weeks. His father & Mr. Wheelwright have visited him. Mr. W. seems to be an earnest Christain & said he had good evidence of his regeneration — So Mr. Follett*. Both have talked with him, also Dea. Hopkins.

Kind regards to wife.

H. Richardson

167

Mr. Albert Richardson
Warren, Maine
Bro. Albert,

Jefferson
March 9, 1867

Dear Sir:

Jennet had a letter from Mary Ann this week. She is very lonely. She wrote that Abbott was married last Friday eve to Vie Follet, the Minister’s daughter, and has gone there to board. His mother did not mistrust what was going on, till that evening when she was invited to call at the Minister’s. She says the two Richardson families are well.

* Baptist minister.

I guess it will be a good thing for Abbott that he is married.

Yours,

E. F. Weeks

168

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Old Town

Warren, Maine

April 30, 1867

My Dear Uncle,

Your very kind letter was duly rec., and is before me. I was very grateful to be remembered by you and Aunt E., and to receive your sympathy, knowing that only those who have passed through the same, know how to feel for me at this time. I did think when I lost my baby that I knew what it was to feel death, but now I can only cry out sometimes, "How can I bear this? How can I live?" You have written my thoughts better than I can express them. He was so good, and I loved him so much. I do not rebel Uncle. I think I can fully say, "He doeth all things well" — but it is so hard to bear. The shortness of time is not a bit of comfort to me, for every day is so long. I look back to that last Summer in Jefferson when we were so happy together, then look at Henry and tremble, lest he too may be taken.

The Dr's last days were so calm and peaceful — so full of trust in God. Oh, I know I do desire this affliction, in all its bitterness, may be the means of drawing me nearer to Heavenly things, nearer my Savior. I try every day to overcome my weak human nature that cries and groans so under this heavy burden, but there is such an aching void!

I hardly make plans so far ahead, but I now intend, Providence permitting, to spend the Summer in

Bethel with the Dr's sister, Helen, and shall want to go to Jefferson a few days first. I shall perhaps call upon you in the course of two or three weeks.

I have been having a picture of the Dr's. copied. The large one I have is perfect, we all think, it is so life-like. They are priceless to me. I will send you and Aunt Eliza a vignette. Wish I might have both of yours.

Give my best love to my dear Aunt. Regards to Friends. Father and Mother send love. We are all well.

With a large portion of love for yourself, I am as ever

Your affectionate Niece,

M. A. B.

169

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

Warren, Maine

May 28, 1867

Bro. Albert,

I received yours Saturday after mail time, so had no chance to write or send by Mail till now.

I have not been to Cambridge yet. The day that I expected to go, the Smallpox was said to be the disease of Sewall Weeks. I had been exposed to it with a number of others, so I went to Portland and returned home, so we have kept pretty close at home since. Sewall Weeks had been sick about a week before it was pronounced the Smallpox, which was on Tuesday & he died the next Wednesday week. His wife and three children have been sick with it but have got nicely. They were not very sick. Thos. P. Week's wife has also had it, but is getting nicely. Good old Bro. Tilley is now sick with it and how it will terminate, we cannot tell, but I understand this morning that he is quite

comfortable. How many more are yet to have it is impossible to tell, but we hope for the best.

Remember us to Mrs. Richardson.

Yours in haste,

S. J. Bond

170

Mr. Albert Richardson

Old Town

Warren, Me.

Feb. 20, 1868

Bro. Albert,

Henry has been sick for more than a week cold, now his heart trouble is very bad.

I fear he won't live. Should not wonder if not through the night. At eleven A. M. I left he was breathing a little better.

If you want to see him come soon if any change for wors will telegraph.

J. Y. Richardson

171

Mrs. Eliza A. Richardson

Old Town

Warren, Maine

Feb. 22, 1868

My dear Wife,

I sent a Dispatch to you this morning after my arrival here saying Henry seemed a little better, and that there was some hope that he might be raised up again. It is now 4 o'clock P. M., and he continues about the same. We feel a little encouraged, although we feel that another ill may take him to his long home. He is perfectly rational & conscious, and seems to understand just his precarious situation. He was very glad to see us, and did not seem the least disturbed — but rather a smile. He looks like a Christian. I somehow feel that

he may be restored, but the Lord knows best, & I leave it in his hands.

When I got to Jefferson I found S. W. Jackson & Lorinda & Jennet about ready to start. They went to Augusta in their private sleigh, & I went in the stage. We then all went on board the cars, and reached Bangor about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8. Went to the Franklin House and took supper, and this morning before breakfast, took cars & arrived in this place about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7. We were quite tired — but on the whole were very much favored.

Mary Ann also got home last evening. She looks tired, but is quite well. Aunt Salome looks very much like the last rose of summer. She feels under the circumstances, like all good women, a great care & deep concern. The neighbors & friends seem very much interested for his recovery.

We are allowed to stay in the room with him but a short time. James & Harriet have been with him day and night, Harriet not having been home since Thursday until since we came. I cannot tell when we shall be at home — but shall come just as soon as possible.

You had better rest entirely while I am absent — not do any work. I think of you, Oh how often! I know God will bless you, for you are one of his children. I feel glad while absent that there is one true heart that thinks of poor me. There will be no chance for me to write again, until Monday:

Yours in love,

Albert Richardson

Mrs. Eliza A. Richardson

Old Town

Warren, Maine

Tuesday Morning Mar. 3, 1868

My dear Wife,

Henry is yet alive. We have given up hope that he will recover. The Doctor says gangreen is making its appearance, & he can live but a short time. Oh, how much I wished you could have been here yesterday afternoon, and listened to his golden words to his brothers & sisters. He called us about him, & perfectly composed, talked to us as one just ready to enter heaven. I am not able now, with pen, to give you a proper idea of the scene. It almost seemed like one talking with us from the upper world. His words seemed precious, like pure gold. Such perfect composure. No fear of death. All ready, at any moment when God calls, to close his eyes and bid farewell to friends & earth.

He did not forget you, but spoke of you as a true woman and many other good things. I could not seem to ask God for anything more.

Salome tells me he seems disappointed this morning, that he did not pass away last night. He may continue a few days yet.

Let Mary do all the work — all of it, & you rest.

Affectionately yours,

A. Richardson

or send with someone else

Mr. Albert Richardson

Warren

Old Town, Maine

March 5, 1868

My Dear Husband,

I have been looking and hoping for you to come every stage day for a week. You do not know how long

the time seems. I got a letter from you this morning saying that I must not be disappointed if you should not come today, but I cannot help being so. I suppose that you are aware that those who have the complaint of your brother live months, and sometimes, as in Mr. Fuller's case, years, before recovering entirely. Consequently, you may be obliged to stay an indeffinite length of time, if you stay until he gets comfortable. I wish you to stay as long as it is duty and, of course, you must be your own judge, but I hope that you will be able to come before this has had time to get to its destination.

Mary and I get along very well. We went to see Mother yesterday afternoon. We were caught in a snow squall going down, but the sun came out while we were there and it was quite pleasant coming home. Mr. Newbert is very kind, and willing to do anything I wish, so that you can be easy about us.

Perhaps it is well that you were obliged to leave me for a time, as I now know how necessary your company is to my happiness. I cannot tell you how much I have missed you and desired to see you. You will come soon, won't you? I shall look for you tonight when the stage comes in.

Mary has built a fire in the furnace, and we have been quite comfortable since. I put a slip into your first letter saying that Mr. Bond would like to see you when you come through Jefferson and if you would let him know, that he would meet you at the P. Office.

Give my kindest love to dear Henry and tell him that all I can do for him is to commend him to the blessed Savior, who loved him and gave himself for him.

Give love to Sister Salome and Mary Ann and Abbott. I sympathize with them sincerely.

Your Affectionate Wife,

(Eliza Ann Richardson)

174

Mrs. Eliza A. Richardson Old Town
Warren, Maine Saturday morning Mar. 7, 1868

My dear good little Wife,

Henry rested better last night than usual, and I think he looks as well as he did when I wrote you yesterday morning. Not that I dare encourage you to hope, for he may leave us, as we feel, any hour.

You don't know how much I want to see my little wife. It seems to me that I never loved her, as I have since being absent from her. It is now, my dear wife, in a special manner, that I realize your great kindness to me, and your sincere love, your warm & cordial affection, and your prayers in my behalf. I feel that God has been so good to me in giving to me one that regards & loves me! I wish I were more worthy of your love. I am homesick — I want to be with you more than any place on earth. Please pardon all my weakness.

Take good care of yourself. Let Mary do all the work. Enjoy your reading while I am absent. The Lord bless you.

Yours in love

Husband

(Albert Richardson)

175

Mrs. Eliza A. Richardson

Old Town

Warren, Maine

Tuesday Morn Mar. 10|68

My dear wife,

This morning I can say to you, Henry is at rest. He departed about half past 9 o'clock last evening. His distress of body for the last 24 hours was terrible. But just before he passed away, his struggles ceased, and he quietly and peacefully fell asleep in Jesus. It was pleasant to see him die. To me, not any gloom was connected with his departure. His end was peace. I need not write more but when I see you — then tell you all.

He is to be buried Thursday, and we expect to start for home the same evening, if nothing in Providence prevents, be at home in Saturday's stage.

Abbott has just given me a letter. I stopped writing & read it with deep interest. Glad to hear that you are well & getting along well. God bless you!

With kind regards and love, I remain,

Yours Affectionately,

A. Richardson

176

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

Warren, Maine

Mar. 27, 1868

Bro. Albert,

I presume you feel greatly disappointed in losing your Store after having got it filled up in good shape, but I was glad to learn that it was insured so that you will not lose much by buying it. When I saw the fire, I had an impression that it was the Factory at your place, and told my folks that I expected to hear that

your Store was burned. The next day we heard that it was the factory, but did not hear that your Store shared the same fate until we received your letter.

I had some very peculiar feelings in relation to going to Warren, and I tried to pray to be guided aright in the matter and had about concluded to accept your offer and try it, but of course the thing is all up now — or at least for the present, and as you said in your letter, I try to think that it is all right, or for the best.

I expect it looks desolate as you go down Street. Do you think the Factory Company will rebuild or will they leave the privilege to run to waste. I hardly know what I shall do this summer. I really don't want to fill up this Store this Spring. I have run my stock down pretty low, so that I shall have to fill up or wind up and I don't know which would be for the best. I think by & by I shall go to Massachusetts and look around a little. Do you think S. W. will sell out his furniture business this Spring or have you heard him say anything in relation to it since I saw you?

Mellen Linscott has sold his farm and bought D. A. Carriers (Your old home). Carrier, I think, will go back to Waltham.

Dr. Buxton was up to see Matilda Weeks a few days since and tapped her & took, I understand, 10 qts. of water. He thinks there is no chance for her recovery.

Remember us to Mrs. Richardson.

Yours Truly,

S. J. Bond . . .

Mr. Albert Richardson

Old Town

Warren, Maine

Wednesday Morning July 15, 1868

Dear Brother and Sister,

I will try to write you a few lines, though it seems a task to do so. My mind is so distracted. Indeed I feel that I am separated — a part of self gone. Alone and desolate — in sorrow and anguish, I mourn for my Dear Husband. The time seems long. O, how long since dear Henry was called away from us? And there are times when it does seem as if I must see him, and hear his dear voice. O, he was so dear to me — Dear to us all.

I shall never forget your kindness in coming here while your dear brother was sick, and remaining with us. It was such a great comfort to him, and a relief to us all. But I wish I could see you, and talk over all that passed in those few weeks. Weeks of suffering.

O, Brother & Sister, I need your sympathy and prayers. Pray God to pity and help me bear this great bereavement and so to live, as to be ready at all times, to depart from this world. I find it hard to say: "Thy will be done" — harder than at first.

Thank you for your letters. I should be very glad to have you write often, if you could take the trouble to do so. Write to me for Henry's sake. O, he used to write to me so often. Do not forget poor Salome. Direct in his name, I cannot bear to have it dropped so soon. Pardon my weakness, and pity me.

We are without a settled Minister yet. Mr. Lytchfield preached here last Sabbath. I do hope for the prosperity of our little Church. The Wednesday Evening prayer meetings are very good and interesting.

The family join me in love to you.

Yours in Affliction,

S. E. Richardson*

178

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Old Town

Warren, Maine

Jan'y 5, 1869

Bro. Albert,

Yours of 28 Dec. came to hand after traveling up river and back.

The new year has come but no less cares and work for me at least. Wonder if we shall be called this year to part with one or more of the family. I often think of it and ask myself which will be called next. How strange it is that I am spared and so many others taken and those my best friends too but God knows best and we must be resigned and try to be prepared when the Summons comes. I find myself often thinking of Henry's last days how resigned & calm he was and at last what a looking forward to a glorious immortality. His last words I heard were glorious.

I have no doubt it is well with him But how I miss him more than any of you.

Mary Ann is stopping with Mrs. John Blanchard yet. Aunt Salome well but oh how sad she looks Abbot lives in the house yet and is still busy at the store. Wife is not as well this winter. Willis is with me and very good help he & John Woodrow. The other children attend school. Rose taking vocal music lessons, John is interested in his studies as for baby if I take

* Mrs. Henry Richardson.

the paper he is sure to be on hand to spell all the large letters and bother me.

Regards to Aunty

As ever yours,

J. Y. Richardson

179

Mr. Albert Richardson
Warren, Maine
Mr. Richardson

Old Town
March 18th 1869

Dear Brother,

Wish I could talk with you today — instead of writing. Suppose you hear from us through James and know something of how we are getting along. I only thought to write a few lines about things that are troubling me.

But first you will be glad to hear a few words about the religious interest and meetings here which were commenced first week in Jan., and have continued most every night since. They have not been largely attended — but good attention has been given, and indeed the blessed Spirit has been hovering over, and around this people. His precious influences warming and quickening the hearts of God's children, bringing some back from their wanderings to the fold of the great Shepherd. Very many of the unconverted have been aroused. Some, I don't know how many, perhaps twenty, lead to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. For all this, let his Holy name be praised.

Mary Ann* is spending the winter with Mr. John Blanchard's family. Their young son and heir is in her care almost exclusively. Henry, little Henry, spends

* Mrs. Barton.

most of his time with his mother, but is in often to see me. They are both here every Sabbath — are quite well. Abbott is afflicted with the asthma. Vira and Babe well. She has found, in believing, a hope in the Saviour. I thought at one time that Abbott was interested but he has not been to the meetings. I do hope that he may be brought now to love and obey God. Will you join me in this prayer that he may come now, in this acceptable time? The interest that I have felt in this cause has helped me to bear the many Dark days and lonesome ones, that have come to me through the year, and especially through this winter.

Little has been done in the Store. Abbott kept it open part of the time, but he has been in the house most of the winter. We would like for him to have had the Store. The old Store, where the Dear one had toiled and laboured so hard.

All this time I did not know that a wife had no interest or dower in Wild land, or that a Husband may die possessed of many thousand dollars worth of such property, and they have no benefit from it, or interest in it, nor can an administrator sell it to pay the debts, so long as there is a dollar of personal property.

My health is not good. I am not strong and I do not know anything about what I shall do. I think James is doing all that he can to collect what is due, but there is much that will never be collected.

Love to yourself and Wife.

Yours,

Salome E. R.

180

THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

Dated Oldtown, Me 1870

Received at Waldoboro, January 19

To: Albert Richardson

Warren via Mail

Mrs. Henry Richardson died at seven (7) o'clock.
Funeral Friday afternoon. Send word to Jefferson.

J. Y. Richardson

181

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Old Town

Warren, Maine

Jan'y 31, 1870

Bro. Albert,

Yours is rec'd. Don't know why you did not get mine. I wrote you by same mail I did S. W. & Jennett. Theirs was rec'd.

Aunt Salome was sick two weeks with Pneumonia not much the first week we did not know of it the first week. I did not think her dangerous till twodays before she died. The Sunday before she died Wednesday she was wandering. I left ther 11 Evening they sent for me about 5 next mornin. I herd screaches before I got half way there from that time she was crazy as I never saw anyone before from sickness So much so that the Dr. thought if she recovered she would not get her reason again. We did all we could for her and that was but little as she would not take medicine nor but very little of anything. She continued so till she was worn out & passed away quietly at last to a blessed inheritance, I have no doubt. So Henrys old home is broken up no light in their sitting room now. All gone Mary

Ann at her new house; Abbott Cal. his wife beares for Cal. week from tomorrow. He is well and written for his family.

I shall have to go on and settle the estate though it be ever so sad. I am certainly reminded of them most every day something turns up that I have to refer to his Books or papers well all things have an end and so will all our troubles.

Regards to Sister.

As ever Yours

J. Y. Richardson

182

Albert Richardson, Esq.

New York

Warren, Maine

March 25, 1870

Bro. Albert —

You wrote me a letter while James & Jennett were here which letter was taken to the house &, I think, not answered. Presume you know ere this, that Jennett & Mary Ann have returned home. They made us a good long visit which we greatly enjoyed. We wanted them to stay longer, but Jennett said she must be at home. Have had a letter from her since she arrived at Jefferson, dated Mar. 9. She thinks she could come to N. Y. without asking any questions.

James Y. left Tues. of this week for the West, via Phila. & Vineland, where he intends to pass a few days. We thought his health much improved & wanted him to remain longer with us, but he concluded another change would benefit him. He intended to visit Ohio, Ill, Ind., and some other western states. Have had a letter from him dated Phila. 23rd, in which he stated he should go to Vineland that P. M.

I presume I shall have a letter from him next week & if there is anything of interest will write again. We miss him very much.

Jennett writes that there is much religious interest in Jefferson. How those words take one back to days of yore.

When are you & wife coming to Brooklyn? Do not delay too long. Time is passing. During the past winter I have felt often that it would soon be ended with me.

Love to Sister Eliza. Write often.

Sincerely,

Asa B.

183

Albert Richardson

Jefferson

Warren, Maine

May 19, 1870

Bro. Albert,

You requested me to write you if father failed any. He fails quite fast. Jennett says his leg is worse than she ever saw it before. S. W. Jackson saw it this morning and thinks it will never heal. Said he should not think that he would live 24 hours with such a leg.

He, father, had an ill turn this morning. He thought himself, that he was dying. He never felt so before. He is very feeble indeed — can't get in or out of bed alone, nor off nor on a chair without help.

Yours,

E. F. Weeks

P. S.

Jennet says she does not know what to do for his leg. Has done, and is doing, everything that she knows of to do.

E. F. W.

184

INTERNATIONAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY

Dated — Waldoboro June 28th 1870

Received at — Warren

To — Albert Richardson

We think father wont live through the day.*

E. F. Weeks

185

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

Warren, Maine

Oct. 18, 1870

Bro. Albert,

S. Albert is sick. Has been unwell since he came home, but was able to keep about until last Thursday. We doctored him as well as we could till Sunday when I called Dr. North who said it was Typhoid fever.

He is quite comfortable this morning. Hope he will not have a very hard run of it.

Come up as soon as you can.

Yours hastily,

S. J. Bond

186

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson

Warren, Maine

Nov. 10th 1870

Dear Father & Mother,

Thinking that you might want to hear how I got out of my feaver I will try and write a few lines to let you know how I am. Since you were up last, I have

* Justus Richardson died June 28, 1870.

been gaining every day and am now about as well as ever only a little weak.

Father Bond went to Portland last Monday morning and I took my place in the store for the first time since I got well. I had no trouble in taking care of all the trade and stood it as well as before I was sick as far as I can see. Father Bond returned home last night about eight o'clock in a hard rain storm. It seems to be his luck to have a storm whenever he goes to Portland, last year he came home in a snow storm. Uncle Henry* went to Portland with Father to see if he could have anything done for his eyes but he couldn't catch the Dr. in his office so he had to come home without receiving any benefit.

Auraldo** wants me to go to ride with him so please excuse me this time and I will try to write more next time. Please excuse this writing for my hand trembles so that I can hardly write at all. I should be very glad to hear from you if you think this worthy of an answer. Auraldo is gaining a little I think. We are in hopes that he will continue to gain, now cold weather is coming and cold weather seems to agree with him.

Hoping to hear from you soon I remain your affectionate son

Albert

P. S.

After reading this over I find fever is spelled incorrectly, please over look it and remember from whence it comes. Mother and Father Bond send their respects.

Albert

* Henry K. Bond.

** Auraldo Wright (died young of tuberculosis).

187

Mr. Albert Richardson
Warren, Maine

Old Town
November 23, 1870

Mr. Albert Richardson

You will be surprised to receive this from me no doubt, but then we have got a baby and I am bound to let you know. A nice, healthy, bright looking little boy, launched out from an unknown to a too well known shore, for us to love and care for — and just as I was turning 41 years of age. He is a great fellow for our house. Haint you glad.

Mary is doing well — sat up part of the day today.

Excuse the way I have got these lines together, but I feel so exhilarated that — that must be my excuse while I remain as ever

Yours truly,

E. B. Alford*

188

A. Richardson, Esq.
Warren, Maine
Bro. Albert,

Old Town
May 15, 1871

I got home safe and benefited by the journey Been in 17 states. The West is a big place and quite a number of nice cities and towns Think I should have better health in some places I have been in than in Me.

Caled on Abiathar.** He is an old Whiteheaded man but Abiathar yet has plenty around him and is well satisfied he has been out of health for sometime but getting better guess I gave him a start up. Left N York

* Second husband of Mary Ann Barton, née Richardson.

**Abiathar Richardson (b. 1809). See sketch.

Friday Eve. Asa and Family well his business is not brisk he tells me.

Wife renewed her age about ten years in my absence and better than for some time.

Rose not well yet Think I shall take her to Bangor and see what can be done for her.

Wife sends regards to Family.

As Ever,

J. Y. Richardson

189

Albert Richardson

Warren, Maine

Bro. Albert,

Old Town

June 13, 1871

The day you left I recd the within letter from Abiathar Thought you would like to see it Write him or not as you like.

As ever,

J. Y. Richardson

190

J. Y. Richardson

Old Town, Maine

Cousin James,

Buffalo Grove

June 5|71

I rec. your favour of the 25th yesterday and was very much pleased to hear from you, and yours, that you and family were well, and that you was so much pleased with your visit to the West, and hope you will never regret having visited this Country and that it will always be a pleasant reminiscence.

Your call on us was quite unexpected but verry agreeable, we have been talking & thinking of you continually since you was here and in doing so have

called up many of the pleasing recollections of the Long past. I look back for years and see Jefferson and its Citizens as it was 40 years ago, only think, forty years, what changes, yes 50 years when we were boys and swimming in Damariscotta Pond in summer and skating in Winter & sleigh riding and parties and singing schools and all our little amusements, how pleasant. Then to think over the names of our associates and connections and wonder what has become of them all, all scattered, all separated by mountain and Wave, and many in the silent embrace of the Grave; and yet we are here in this beautiful world in speaking distance, when we can write and hear from each other and exchange notes, and I hope & trust that since you have broken the ice that we shall continue till the end to correspond. I will.

Now then, James, Old Fellow, I write to say that my Family are well as can be expected. Wife is not in good health generally but as usual good. Ezra has got all right. Frank is well and all send compliments with a wish that you and yours may all live forever and be happy, as for myself I am not as well as when you was here, my liver is in a bad state and my feet have commenced to break out again but I feel in hopes that they will be better soon, as I have got 5 Boxes of Mandrake Pills which is sure to cure everything. After all I feel as cheerful and comfortable as can be expected. I ride out as much as possible, and like you, think it is some benefit.

Give our best respects to your Lady & Children. Tell them that you have seen us, and that through you we send them our best wishes tell them to come out and see us and see the Western Country and we will try to make their visit agreeable, and you come with them. Tell Albert when you see him to write me a

letter as long as the Moral Law and I will answer. Now if I don't get a line from him soon I shan't like it, when he comes to Old Town make him sing Shurburn for me, it with Majesty is my favorite.

Best wishes,

Abiathar

Son of Justice. I suppose you are aware that I am the Oldest male member of the Family and consequently the Head Representative of the Richardsons of the Town of Jefferson, County of Lincoln, State of Maine. God bless you.

191

Mr. Albert Richardson

Boston

Warren, Maine

Oct. 15, 1872

My dear Brother,

Yours of the 8th inst. received, during my temporary illness, has just been perused by me, with sympathy and heart felt sorrow — although the event was not wholly unexpected.

I will remember the first time I saw her at the Rooms — of the saintlike expression of her countenance, which still abides in mind. Her constant, faithful and I doubt not, sometimes trying, & laborious effort to keep up her monthly remittances to the treasury of the Missionary Union, will never be forgotten — for it often was an oasis in the desert, accompanied as it often was, with words of cheer.

I have ever looked upon her as a superior Christian & most excellent woman, and I therefore sympathize with you all the more deeply, for your loss is proportionately greater.

May the Lord bless you in this time of your trial,

& enable you to feel that this is one of the things that shall work together for your good.

Respectfully yours,

F. A. Smith*

P. S.

I note what you say about the will and shall be glad to know the particulars at your convenience.

192

Mr. Albert Richardson

Old Town

Warren, Maine

Jan'y 15, 1873

Bro. Albert,

Yours of severall weeks ago came in due time. Should have answered befor this but have been down with neuralgia for over three weeks. not able to use one eye yet but am out this week.

We are well. Rose and myselfe have been sick. Willis went into the woods Wednesday thinks he will stop this winter Rose & John attended Singing School But the Day Schools closed on account of Small pox there is a few cases in Town Hope it wont spread.

I was sick at the time of Eliza's funeral and could not come on that account. Would have been glad to but she no doubt is better off as we all just have but a short time befor us. Although you feel her loss so deeply, remember your loss is her gain.

Write me when you will come.

As ever,

J. Y. Richardson

* An official of the missionary society. Mrs. Eliza Ann Richardson died October 4, 1872, leaving the missionary society \$1000. It is doubtful if the postscript was an afterthought.

193

Mr. Albert Richardson
 No. 1 Water Street, New York
 Dear Father,

East Jefferson
 Nov. 16|73

I have neglected writing to you, for the reason that I thought, by what you said in your letters, that you were coming home soon, and might not receive my letter, but as I did not get any letter yesterday, I think I will write a bit to let you know that we are still alive and as well as usual.

Uncle Erastus told me to-day that they rec'd. a letter from Addie saying you were going to New Jersey to look at some farms, and she thought you might stop untill after the Holidays. I hope you are enjoying yourself, as you are no doubt. I think likely you are having as good if not a little better weather than we are having; the ground has been frozen for a long time, and it has been snowing most all day and now, 8 P. M., the storm seems to be increasing.

I should be glad to meet you at the Depot soon, but wouldn't urge you hard to come while it is so cold.

Your Affectionate Son,

S. A. Richardson

194

Albert Richardson, Esq.
 Jefferson, Maine
 Bro. Albert,

Old Town
 April 29, 1874

Yours of 25 inst is at hand and I hasten answer as think you are in great haste as you say nothing of friends, whether you wish to consult him Dr. M. or no.

Is anyone verry sick or is it for the general good?

Now to answer your inquiries. Trust my honest

convictions that he wont suit you as a physician I know nothing as never imployed him. He came here year or more since made quite a stir (as you will see knowing this people here) at first sight or after hearing him talk but a short time. Have herd much fault found with his practice & prices both. He was very pias when he first came, talked loud & long in Methodist meetings I herd but got over it soon, now much of this is hear say Think the Docts thought him fair physician, dont think quite reliable. He left here for Vinal Haven last summer or fall Mr. Hartnell was here from ther a few days since & said he, Montgomery, had opened an Office in Belfast that was last news till your letter came. If he goes to Jefferson wont stay long is my mind.

Ed Alford thought goodeal of him at first. Don't know how it is with him now. Now about the gentleman my opinion is you will soon make up your mind and not be mistakened in that about bad habits or immorality. Don't know of anything now. He would not be my physician if had to send to Bangor.

All well as usual. Please let me know about this matter.

Private

In haste,
J. Y. Richardson

195

Albert Richardson, Esq.
Jefferson, Me.
Bro. Richardson

Boom & Co.
April 30|74

D. Sir:

In answer to you letter inquiring as to the standing of Dr. J. D. Montgomery, I would say that as a physician or surgeon, we have not the equal in this place.

He is a member of the Methodist Church, and while he would be called for this latitude a good moral man, my private opinion is that his religion wont hurt him.

If you have seen the man, it is not a difficult job to tell what he is. He has been a drinking man, and a perfect devil all through his youth, and now in his middle life, he is a rough, quick tempered, but I think, an honest good hearted Scotchman.

I have held pleasant business relations with him and like the man, and do hope that he will find a better place than Jefferson.

With respect yours

E. R. Alford

Note—Dr. Montgomery came to Jefferson and practiced for several years. His family did not live with him while he was there. He occupied a small building — opposite the present residence of Mr. Forrest H. Bond — which was known for many years as Dr. Montgomery's office.

That he was a man of superior education and skill as a physician seems to have been the general opinion. He was said to have studied medicine in Scotland and at that time it was thought that medical education in Great Britain was more thorough than that in the United States.

Dr. Montgomery was always a man apart. People were inclined to regard him as a foreigner. His unusual family life and his reputation for prescribing large doses of alcoholic drinks for himself, while for some unaccountable reason often overlooked in a physician, lessened the confidence people had in him. However, he seemed to have ability to inspire his patients with the depth and mystery of his knowledge.

Mr. Myrick Weeks, himself a very shrewd man, was much impressed when he called him to see his son George, who was suffering from an attack of measles. At the time of the call, George was evidently at that stage of the disease — just before the rash appears — when the temperature is highest and the patient most uncomfortable, appearing very sick but not in any immediate danger.

After examining the patient, Dr. Montgomery walked back and forth in the bedroom, evidently in deep thought. The anxious father heard him murmur: "It is too late for anything by mouth to save him. I must use the needle." Whereupon, he gave George a hypodermic injection — probably morphine.

In describing what followed, Mr. Weeks said: "We sat by the bed watching the effect of the medicine. In less than one half an hour, George looked at me, smiled and said 'Father, I never felt more comfortable in my life'." Dr. Montgomery announced that the crisis had passed and that the patient was out of danger. Thus, the doctor had a sense of the dramatic in revealing his skill.

Another incident displays Dr. Montgomery's interest in the science of medicine and also his failure to control his thirst. He had a patient in the town of Washington who died of an obscure disease of the brain. Through connivance with the grave-digger, he was allowed to sever the head of the corpse after the relatives had left the cemetery. He started for Jefferson with the head in a pail, standing in the back of his wagon. On the way he became confused by too frequent draughts from the bottle. Unnoticed, the pail containing the head fell out of the wagon and was found by someone driving along the road.

As may be supposed, this created quite a sensation. It was felt that while the doctor showed commendable scientific zeal in wishing to do a postmortem examination of his patient's brain to determine the exact cause of death, the execution of his purpose was exceedingly vulnerable to criticism.

196

Albert Richardson
or S. J. Bond
East Jefferson, Maine

Freeport
Dec. 15|74

Dear Father,

If it is pleasant, you may make some arrangements to meet us at the five P. M. train Thurs.

Emilie's sister is coming with us so you will have to come in a two seated cart of some kind so that you can take three of us.

If you can make arrangements so that we can go right to the house we had rather do so.

Al.*

197

Albert Richardson
Jefferson, Maine
Bro. Albert,

New York
Dec. 20th 1874

From a letter rec'd. by Adelaide, presume your son has secured a daughter for you ere this. Please give the children my earnest wished for their happiness. Hope I may see your new house next Summer & that you may long enjoy it. How nice it is for the young folks.

It is sad to think of the changes that have taken place in Jefferson & O. T. Such is life

Sincerely,

A. B. R.

198

Albert Richardson
E. Jefferson, Maine
Bro. Albert,

New York
Feb. 4th 1876

Your favor of the 24th ult. was duly received. I seldom know when Adelaide has a letter or hear one word from it, so unless we hear from some other friend, we know nothing. Did not know that you had purchased $\frac{1}{2}$ interest of S. J. B. Yes, we did hear of the new baby.

Now Grand-Pa, you must air your dignity. Glad for Parents & hope they will have much happiness with their son.

* Samuel Albert Richardson. This letter was written the day before his marriage.

Bro. Tilley with a new wife? I remember that James & I had a laugh last summer when visiting the Church. Bro. T. was working on his pulpit and a Mrs. W. was evidently looking after the dirt that he might make upon the carpet. Things do become strangely mixed in this world. Remember me most kindly to the good man.

We shall be likely to visit Phila. several times next Summer, so you can come any time after Centennial opens & be certain of company from Brooklyn.

Sincerely yours,

Asa B.

199

Albert Richardson
Jefferson, Maine
Bro. Albert,

Old Town
Feb. 23, 1876

I rec'd your letter and I ought to have answered it promptly, and I will say for all its kindly wishes for me and mine, we as truly reciprocate.

Abbott and Vie we hear from quite often, but we never find out that he has any business in particular. I think that he is not able to take hold of any steady work, although most, or entirely, free from his asthma, it has left him physically in poor condition. Vie makes him a good wife and a pleasant companion, and he has the faculty of gathering around him firm friends that will not see him want. All things considered, he is doing there among strangers better than he would here in the home of his friends.

By the way, where is our friend Dr. Montgomery. Is he in your place or thereabouts. I think he would do well here now — Chadbourn has gone, Jerome rather the worse for wear, Puley old and Sam out of practice.

Did Montgomery's family leave him, or he his family. I saw the girls last fall in town. Thought by their actions that they might not be quite as prudent in their ways as they ought to be.

I join with my wife in giving you a most cordial invitation to our register at any time that you can see fit to come this way, and I will now close recommending you to live virtuously and then you will be happy — but if you cant live virtuously, try and have a good time.

Yours truly,

E. R. Alford

200

Mr. Albert Richardson
No. 1 Water St., New York
Care of A. B. Richardson

Home Fri. Morning
Oct. 6, 1876

Dear Father,

They tell me that you would have told us how to direct if you had wanted a letter, but I will venture a short letter.

I know you want to hear from the baby by this time. Han thinks he misses his romps with grandpa. I think you could see that he had gained if you could see him now. He gets up on his hands and knees and goes backwards turns around and does everything but go ahead. You would laugh to see him "pat-a-cake." He will "pat it", and then stop and shut up his chubby hand, stik out his finger and "pick it" so cunning then "toss it in oven." One of babies upper teeth is almost through.

I will leave the baby now and tell a little home news. I will make (or let) Han tell the Town talk. Al is at work now out in the shed. He has had H. Ames

this morning helping him empty the bags of corn — he got his all up in good time. Don't say anything to Uncle — Gilmore didn't look after his quite sharp enough, his men neglected it. Rodney A. was down to W. day before yesterday and brought home the news that the R. R. men wanted the car, so ran it off down an embankment. Al said, perhaps you know, and dumped the corn all out. R. Told White to get a man to put it under cover, so he said he would. It rained hard all day yesterday, if it had been out, I guess it would have been well soaked.

From your "darter".*

So I will have to take up the strain it seems, although I don't feel in very good trim for writing an interesting letter. I seem to have been on the "go" ever since you left. In the first place I will thank you kindly for your present, you made one in the shape of a hat, also for the interest you took in me concerning the musical con. I thought it sort of a queer way to go but as I wanted to go so much — for the benefit particularly, I went.

I attended the Fair Wednes. and went home with Marsh and it rained of course and I stayed until this morning. Herbert is really and truly married and so they go. I guess Hannah will wait until it will be a novelty. We havent had a letter from home since you left, so have no news to write from there. I wonder if it is rainy with you as it is here it rather interfered with the latter part of the Fair. They were to have had the horse trot and the band would have played yesterday, if the weather had been suitable. Mr. Merservey came up and played with them, took dinner and supper here. He is quite a gentleman in appearance; he gave

* Mrs. S. A. Richardson, née Litchfield.

me some new ideas, or new to me. He plays in the orchestra, and by the way that was excellent. You would have enjoyed it, but you will probably hear as good music as that before you come home.

Mrs. Bond's brother is dead. He was to have made them a visit this year. Frank has left the Lake House and is going to D. to keep house for an old bachelor, two dollars a week and she has her child with her. She will try to catch the old fellow I will bet. Well off they say. Hoping you will enjoy your visit ever so much, I will bid you good bye.

Your friend,

Hannah*

201

Albert Richardson
East Jefferson, Maine
Bro. Albert,

New York
Nov. 6th 1877

Your very welcome letter of Nov. 1st, duly received.

Annie is getting up plans for a new house or enlargement of the old. Poor soul, she can not find a house that pleases her in all respects. Since your favor she says she must have a pleasant room for you. We shall all be very glad to have you in Brooklyn.

If we all live & are well, I think of going to Paris next Summer. Will you go? Do not fail to remember me to Bro. Tilley! Have much the same feeling at Old Town as you. How changed! Such is life, but Bro. we will soon be on the other side & find many a dear one

* Hannah A. Litchfield — later Mrs. Marshall A. Bond — Mrs. S. A. Richardson's sister.

there. God is so good to me that I want to sing praises all the time.

Faithfully,

A. B. Richardson

202

Albert Richardson
East Jefferson, Maine
Bro. Albert

Waldoboro
March 7, 1878

I rec'd a letter last night from Mr. Trask about Lake House. He proposes to add 200\$ to former talk. I have replied today saying he might have it for \$3300.

I am getting along very well —

Yrs. Truly,

S. W. Jackson

Confidential

203

Albert Richardson
E. Jefferson, Maine
Bro. Albert,

New York
March 8th, 1878

Your favor of 4th at hand. I rec'd the letter dated Jan'y 28th but owing to some changes have not been able to answer some of your inquiries. Was very glad to hear from the old home. Wish I could be with you & hear good Bro. Tilley pray. It is very pleasant to see the young taking their stands for God & acknowledging a love for Jesus.

The new house is large & Annie has one room that she has named for you. It has and will cost so much more than I intended, that I fear it will spoil our intended visit to Europe. My wish was to leave about the middle of July & return first of Sept. The expense will

be from \$500 to \$1000 ea. Our Rector intends to go in June & be away some 2 months & thinks he can make his tour on \$600.

Annie is busy with matters of church, "Home for destitute children", & new house. Isabel attending school & taking lessons in music. When will you come to Brooklyn? Tell Albert to go onward & do all the good he can now. Life is short at best. "Jesus keep me near the cross". Remember me to Bro. Tilley.

We now have 36 Teachers, 7 officers & 275 Scholars in our S. S. Hope some 37 will join the Church this Spring.

Adelaide moving along quietly & doing good school work. Write me often and tell me all about S. S. & Church meetings, also about all the old neighbors. Remember me to them all.

Faithfully,

A. B. Richardson

204

Mr. Albert Richardson

East Jefferson, Maine

Bro. Albert —

Waldoboro

March 3, 1879

Yrs rec'd about Damariscotta Bank Stock. I hardly know what to say. That Bank stands well so far as I know. It's published Statements look well. They have quite a large reserve fund on hand. In 1884 I suppose all the National Banks will probably wind up or change their manner of doing business and it looks to me that if that Bank should then close up its business that it ought to pay the Stockholders something more than the par value of the Stock.

In this town on account of the taxes, I should rather have a 4 pr ct U. S. Bond than the Stock. With

you, I think the Stock will pay the most. I would not pay above par for it. If business should become better and there be more call for money, I think that would help the Bank Stock more than the Bond.

I find Bank men in Boston don't have full confidence in the prospect of Bank Stocks for the future. They think the current of feeling is against Banks and that it may operate to their prejudice.

So you will see, between hopes & fears, that I don't think there is much to choose between the two. Still I rather think I should take the Bank Stock.

Yours truly,

S. W. Jackson

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Oldtown

East Jefferson, Maine

March 20, 1879

Bro. Albert,

Yours of 18 inst came yesterday The 500\$ came today. I have signed the note & send it this day within Should like the five hundred in April and will do as I told you in letter before this.

We are having nice March weather good sleighing Business a little better for few days.

The religious interest holds out but not as few weeks ago Though it looks hope full & some are looking for more The work in Bangor is progressing and it looks now as if the city would be mooved.

I tell you our prayer meetings are good place to be in.

These days we have an old minister from Mass.

who has had large exspearance We like him much he stops with us.

All well as usual.

Truly,

J. Y. Richardson

206

Mr. Albert Richardson

Old Town

E. Jefferson, Maine

Oct. 14, 1880

Bro. Albert,

Yours of 12 inst came yesterday We had our minister ordained Installed yesterday Had quite a no. out of Town and a good time Sermon by Prof. Sewall When I was enjoying it, the thought came to me that I wished you were here to hear it too When I came home nearly night I found John had left your letter at house for me. Wife said tell Uncle Albert to come We are alone now. We shall be glad to see you

Now how for Ohio & Indiana Better than my exspectations. Had letter from Will this morning all well He was in the great Grant demonstration untill 4 A M He tells me it is mostly politics now.

Dont think Asa has sold that copper mine yet. It is a good thing no doubt. But we think we have got the best thing yet in our Exetir Silver mine If you should want a little think I could get it at a low rate now or in our Greenwood which is situated on the same lead but not opened as yet We thought the Exetir would prospect the Greenwood. I see your Laurance Stock is coming up Mining men think there will be a boon err long in Stocks.

Let us know when you are coming Glad to know
Gilmore is better.

Regards to all

Yours,

J. Y. Richardson

Albert Richardson
E. Jefferson, Maine
Dear Uncle,

Waldoboro
Oct. 23, 1880

We heard last night that Albert was sick, threatened with a fever, and we want to know if it is so, and how little Mary and the rest of you are getting along? Has Emily got any help yet? Mother says she will send up cooked food gladly if you want her to, and wants you to let us know as soon as possible just how you all are, and if there isn't something we can do for you.

Hoping we hear from you, that your sick ones may be improving, I am

Yours lovingly,

M. A. Jackson*

Albert Richardson
E. Jefferson, Maine
Bro. Albert,

New York
Nov. 8th, 1880

Yours of the 4th at hand. It is always easy to get a letter from me if you only answer.

I did speak to broker some time since, & he was to report when he found what you wanted. He stated

* Mary Ann Jackson. Written while S. A. Richardson and his daughter Mary had scarlet fever.

that it would not be easy to find such Bonds as you wanted as there was plenty of money in N. Y., offered at 4 per c't on undoubted securities. I will try & see the broker today or tomorrow & report. If you can get Portland 6 per c't Bonds, I think you will do well to secure them.

I believe in prayers & a good many of them. "Pray at all times," is the command.

I trust we did our duty to our Country & to our God in electing Gen. Garfield. No. 1 Water St. gave 10 votes for G. & A. I worked from 6 A. M. till sundown.

Regret to learn that you & family have been sick. Give all much love.

All very well. God is very good to us & we try to be thankful.

Very truly yours,

A. B. Richardson

209

Albert Richardson, Esq.

Jefferson, Maine

Bro. Albert,

New York

Feb. 8th, 1881

Your favor of 27th ult. duly rec'd. Always glad to hear from you. So Henry Chissam has entered into rest. "All is well" are good dying words. May we all be able to say the same. How soon it will be said of me: "He is gone". With Jesus as my friend, all will be well.

Addie is with us at present & I hope she will remain. Isabel is now a large girl & is very fond of Addie.

The Helping Hand meet at our house this evening. The Rector invited all & I presume they will come.

Annie & Isabel well. Church matters moving along pleasantly.

Give much love to all. Excuse haste tonight.

Sincerely,

Asa B.

Mr. Albert Richardson

New York

East Jefferson, Maine

February 14, 1881

Dear Sir,

I am selling a mining property, known as little Duck Island.* The whole property is put in at \$15,000, and then divided into 15ths & \$1,000 per fifteenth.

I do not recommend you to take any part of it, as the property is wholly undeveloped. But I, for myself, will think well enough of it to head the List with 3/15. The List includes some of the most prominent men in New York, Bklyn, and takes 10/15, leaving only 5/15 to be sold.

Some of the parties interested in the "Little Duck", have had some of the Ore assayed and it returns \$21.52 to the ton. The assessment for development will probably be \$100 per fifteenth.

If you should want a piece of this property, let me hear from you at once please, as I am in haste to close the matter up.

Yours very truly,

A. B. Richardson

Willis

* At his death A. B. R. owned Little Duck Island. It was sold to the Audubon Society for a bird sanctuary.

211

Albert Richardson
East Jefferson, Maine

Ellsworth, Maine
Feb. 22, 1881

Dear "Uncle" Albert,

Yours of 16th inst duly rec'd, and contents noted.

To your first question wanting my opinion of the mines in this vicinity, I will answer as follows: I think the silver mine of Sullivan and the copper mine of Bluehill are good mines and will continue to grow in value as they are developed until they are the best paying mines on an average of any mine in the United States.

There are mines in other States that produce better paying ore, but the cost of opperating them is enough more than to out-balance. I own an interest in one called the Egypt Silver Mining Company, Incorporated one year ago. The shaft is down 70 feet, well timbered and a very good prospect (we think) of its proving a good mine. It is the best organized mine here & the officers are of our best citizens. It is located on a line with the Sullivan mine. The Stock is worth fifty cents per share, par value five dollars. The businessmen as a general thing, think well of them and most of them have invested in them. None have declared a dividend, in fact all are in their infancy "if you will allow me the expression". The Sullivan, I have no doubt, will be the first to declare a dividend and others will soon follow.

They are at work in all the leading mines and are putting in costly machinery. The Sullivan is the nearest ready to make bullion. They have made some, but were obliged to change some of their machinery and have just commenced to make more. The Milton mine has very costly machinery in, but as yet have not

reached any ore. The Gouldsboro mine of Gouldsboro has more or less machinery and I think is a good mine. At Bluehill, the Drylass, Bluehill, Twin Lease are putting in smelting works and will soon be turning out copper. Another season and those three mines, if well conducted, will surely pay dividends.

The Stock of all our mines are mostly sold in the larger cities. Mostly in Boston. Some do not put their Stock on the market, but hold it themselves, having confidence in the mines & hoping the Stock will sell better after the mine is better developed. You should not invest in any mine without visiting the mine and know what you are buying.

There is one Gentleman that owns one half the Egypt mine. He will sell one half of it, which is one fourth the whole mine, with all the improvements, for two thousand (2000) dollars. It represents 15,000 shares besides a proportional part of the treasury Stock.

I will refer you for farther information to the President of the company, Mr. James F. Davis. He is one of our most upright citizens and anything he will say or write to you, you may depend upon as being all right. He is a good deal such a man with us as your brother, Henry, was to Old Town, and about his age when he died. But I would advise you not to invest in mines or Stock without a thorough investigation. If you should wish to visit the mines, I have plenty of time to go with you, at Bluehill & Sullivan and should be happy to do so. It would pay you well for your trouble and expence.

Should be pleased to answer any questions at any time. Should like for you to take an interest in one mine if you can see your way clear to do so.

Should be pleased to see you here at any time.

Yours truly,
A. H. Norris*

212

A. Richardson, Esq.

New York

E. Jefferson, Maine

April 14, 1881

Bro. Albert,

Your favor, (how long between,) of 11th just at hand, last eve. Was not at office Tues. or Wed., so Willis brought yours to the house. Good trip & I would like dearly to make it but Annie says I must not without her. Isabel is hardly far enough advanced in her French to be profited by European tour. Besides, there are some business matters that may not be in shape by the 18th of June. Hope you will go & have a most lovely journey.

Call upon Victoria please, & give her my love.

Perhaps you can yet have a piece of Topley. Owners have had much trouble among themselves. Expert in Maine now examining "Little Duck".

Have been quite unwell for several weeks. I would like to hear Bro. Tilley. Am very hungry sometimes. Cannot live on husks. Like Paul, I want Jesus Christ preached to me. No splitting hairs.

Excuse my great haste. Three days work in one. When at Waldoboro, give them all much love.

God is good! ! !

Sincerely,

Asa B. Richardson

* Probably a friend from Old Town. Albert Richardson bought no mining stock.

Albert Richardson, Esq.
 Care of A. B. Richardson, Esq.
 1 Water Street, New York City
 Father R.

Home
 Thurs. 8 - 30 P. M.
 (1881)

Don't you want to study out one of my letters? You will be well paid for doing so, it will be so good (?).

Al said today, he guessed he would send a postal but I told him I would write a letter. You see the home. I have just got things settled. Don't you want to see little Sam? He has got one tooth — his cold holds on. I wish I could get him hardened to the weather hot or cold. I wish he could give you a kiss as he does me. Mary was going over to the Store for me this morning and I put her sunbonnet on. She didn't want to wear it but started. Pretty soon she came back and said, "When little girls go to the store they wear hats." I told her the bonnet was best and she said, "If any gentleman should be in the Store they wouldn't think much of this bonnet. I should be ashamed of it." I told her there were nice kisses in the bonnet & she went off. When she was going up the hill, Ross & Criss Erskine came running down to meet her. She was shy — stopped and turned her head this way (to look at the mill she said when I asked her about it). It was fun to see them. They would cut circles around her, then go off and run & jump at her. Sure enough she did see a strange gentleman. He kissed her and gave her a cent to buy candy.

There! all this page about such stuff. Well, I'll finish it out now. I told May I was going to write to you and she said tell him to bring me a school-book. Charlie seems afraid you won't come back — thinks you will stay there — don't know what put it into his head.

Now for Ellis!* The “critter” left for home Thurs., left here, Mon. went up to Washington and had a meeting in the eve. Al went to meeting Sun. A. M. I was going P. M., but it rained. It stopped so that he had quite a meeting house full in the eve. I will try to tell you a few choice extracts from his sermon. Mr. Tilley got up and said he hoped the interest would continue good and the people come out to meeting after Mr. Ellis was gone. He (Ellis) got up and said, “If you had made that talk three weeks ago, it would have amounted to something.” Said he could tell those who were his friends — who were for & who against him and then said he could pick out every Christian. Said he supposed some would say that Ellis hasn’t made any converts but some children and a few weak minded women, but it needn’t have been so if the church-members had taken hold. He had a magnet and some nails and illustrated. Christ was the magnet and the little tacks, the young convert very easily drawn. Then he went on with larger nails till he got to a great rusty nail — old church member — which the magnet couldn’t lift. Then to cap it all, he took an old doubled up spike which he called an “old bent-up Universalist” and pointed in the direction of Rodney** said, “Is that you brother.” Of course the magnet had no effect on it — Wasn’t that mean?

I was in the bedroom when Marden, Jennie & Tom came to the door to say good bye to him. After he left, I took advantage of the window being up & blinds shut. I was so fierce to find out what was said about him, but couldn’t hear a word said, only Tom shook his head &

* An evangelist.

** Rodney Ames, an old man, who could not stand straight on account of spinal arthritis.

said twice, "I'll shake the dust off my feet". He came down on him good, too.

The meeting Thurs. night was well attended — another this eve. Mrs. D. has spoken twice in the meetings. She & Ellis were off on the pond most all day Sat., and as a matter of course, a great deal has been said. I must stop and go to bed.

Regards to the family & much to Addie.

Good night

Emilie (Richardson)

Write to us

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

JEFFERSON, MAINE

So many of the letters refer to the church that a description of the interior as it was when the letters were written, and a poem by Mr. Arad E. Linscott describing the scene which was enacted there nearly every Sunday morning may be of interest.

The pulpit was of pine, neatly paneled and surmounted by a plush covered rest for the church bible. At either end of the platform on which the pulpit stood, a low square column, paneled to match the pulpit, was placed against the rear wall of the church; from these columns wide wooden scrolls curved gracefully to the floor. Both the pulpit and the scrolls were said to be the work of the Rev. William Tilley, more commonly known as Elder Tilley. They were painted white as was the rest of the wood-work with the exception of the knobs on the doors and the mouldings on the backs of the pews, which were stained mahogany. There were no decorations on the walls.

Entrance to the interior of the church was from doors on either side, from which aisles extended dividing the church floor into three sections: a central section of two rows of pews separated by a partition; and on either side, single rows filling the space between the aisles and the side walls. Other short rows of pews, at right angles with the pews in the body of the church, filled the space at either end of the pulpit platform.

At the entrance of each pew was a little door, which could be shut creating a sense of privacy even if the church were crowded. The pews were for the

most part a family affair; they were bought by the head of the family, were referred to by the name of the owner and were so literally regarded as his property that when the new pews were installed, many of the old pews were taken home by the owners. Each family furnished their pew with cushions, foot-stools and, in some cases, carpets to suit their tastes. All this created the feeling of having a home in the church. Besides the pews owned by individuals there were ample free pews; visitors and people who did not care to buy pews were always welcome.

The choir loft was at the end of the church opposite the pulpit, back of the pews, and high above the floor of the church. It was entered by a little staircase from the vestibule. When the choir sang the congregation stood and turned around to face the singers.

REMINISCENCES OF AN OLD-TIMER

I had wandered back to Jefferson
Where I'd live in days of yore,
And the old church bell was peeling
Rousing me from sleep once more.

Yes, I'd go again to meeting,
Sit there in my wonted seat,
Wondering whom of by-gone Sundays
My reminiscent eye would meet.

Up the aisle my way I wended
To the pew I knew full well,
Where I'd listened to the pastor
Kindling bright the fires of hell.

Took my kerchief; brushed the seat off;
 Watched the people filing in
 To be taught by Dr. Tilley
 How to break the bonds of sin.

Soon the service was proceeding
 Through Doxology and Psalm,
 Through the solemn invocation
 Seeking peace, averting harm.

Then the notices were given:
 "Usual service held tonight"—
 But the Doctor's eyes were twinkling
 With radiance most bright.

"You have bought a new church organ.
 It has come to Winslow's Mills
 And this week 'twill be assembled.
 Glad to say we've met all bills."

But the people sat dumb-founded!
 Like some ghost that ne'er was laid,
 The old organ pealed forth music
 By invisible fingers played.

Like my mother's touch it sounded
 As the strains grew loud and clear,
 And I sat in reverie dreaming
 Of the olden days so dear.

All the present now had vanished.
 Sat I now in straight-backed pew,
 And I saw, out-spread before me,
 Just a pleasant old-time view.

You know Dad was always early
 So I saw them all come in,
 Beginning first with Mrs. Dunbar
 With her face so wan and thin.

Then the dear old lady Mayhew
 Shrouded in her gown of black,
 Just to Heaven looking forward;
 To earth's treasures looking back.

Then the gentle Sam Bond entered,
 Followed by his comely wife,
 Still her curls of youth a-wearing,
 Gracing well her face so blithe.

Now the smiling Deacon Russell
 Strode the aisle, that pious soul,
 While the sunlight through the window
 Like a halo crowned his poll.

Now his wife and rose-cheeked children
 Up the aisle Deacon Andrews led,
 Freed from six days' honest labor;
 And in reverence bowed his head.

John S. Ames sat just across us
 With his wife, a perfect queen:
 All the graces you could mention
 In her bearing proud were seen.

Now, boy-fashion, I was gazing
 Up behind me at the choir,
 Thinking how grand a thing 'twould be
 To sit there, so much higher.

Then the leader, Alfred Besse,
 With his fork attuned his throat,
 While Ben Ladd, the sweet-toned tenor,
 Limped in limb but not in note.

Marden Johnson pealed the basso—
 S. T. Jackson by his side—
 S. A. Richardson pumped the organ,
 Just behind his lovely bride.

John O. Linscott, prince of humor,
 Sweet as cello 'neath the bow,
 Horace Chapman, like a Chesterfield,
 Stood there singing deep and low.

Mary Besse, Ella Chapman,
 Eva, Marsh, and Hannah, too,
 Sang their anthem up to Heaven;
 Sang with hearts that e'er rang true.

Then eloquent Deacon Erskine
 With the others passed the box—
 Deacon Albert Ames the faithful,
 Deacon Richardson, orthodox.

Hark, the door again is creaking!
 Entering with a stalwart swing,
 Uncle Bial, tall and stately,
 Marches to the left-hand wing.

Unattended? No, by hookey!
 Through the door Aunt Cal, his wife,
 Smiling, prim and tall and spritely—
 Dear old lady, bless her life—

Walks slowly, with measured tread, and
 Glances shy at being late
 While at their pew, her blushing spouse
 Does, in silence, stand and wait.

I could name them all the night long,
 Those dear saints of yesterday,
 For they came from every household
 Here to bow and sing and pray.

We are richer for their living,
 We've inherited their estate;
 But as trustees of their memories,
 We've a duty far too great.

Let the new church organ echo,
Let it play its sweetest strain;
But forever in my fancy,
Those dear faces live again.

Arad E. Linscott

Note:- To picture Alfred Besse using a tuning-fork when the organ is so much a part of the poem seems illogical; however, this is not the case. Immediately following the regular church service, there was more singing by the Sunday School. This singing was not always accompanied by the organ, and on these occasions Mr. Besse used his tuning-fork to pitch the tunes. Sixty years have not effaced the memory of the ethereal tones of Benjamin Ladd's melodious tenor or the organ-like quality of Horace Chapman's deep bass as those well-known hymns, unaccompanied by the organ, floated through the old church. Mr. Linscott, in his reverie, hears the voices and sees the faces of all the singers; his description of them as they wandered through his mind, while poetically expressed, does not lack in accuracy.

This poem was written many years ago by Mr. Linscott, and read by him at an entertainment to raise money to help pay for a new church organ.

A PARTIAL GENEALOGY OF THE RICHARDSON FAMILY

NOTES ON THE RICHARDSON FAMILY IN ENGLAND AND THEIR EMIGRATION TO AMERICA

Three Richardson brothers emigrated from Stanton, England to Charleston, Mass. — Ezekiel in 1630 and Samuel and Thomas in 1636. On Nov. 5, 1640, these three brothers, with four others, were chosen to establish a church in a section which later became Woburn, Mass. All three and many of their descendants lived in Woburn.

In 1932 Mr. J. Asbury Pitman visited Westmill, England, where the Richardson family lived, and obtained a certified transcript of the baptism of Samuel and Thomas and the marriage of their parents as they appear on the records of the parish church. It is Mr. Pitman's opinion that before emigrating to America, the family moved to Stanton, a larger town about five miles distant. Westmill is hardly more than a crossroads. Both towns are about thirty miles from London.

Copy of Marriage Record Thomas Richardson and
Katherine Duxford

Marriage Solomenized in the Parish of Westmill in the
County of Hartford Thomas -?-ichardson of Standon
to (illegible) Duxford of (?) on the 24th of
August, 1590.

Officiant Jacob (us?) Taylor
 (Two 1 penny revenue stamps
 endorsed, A. G. King
 December 6th, 1932)

I certify that the above is a correct copy of the entry in the Register of this Parish of Westmill. A. G. King, Clerk in Holy Orders, Curate in Charge of Westmill, December 6th, 1932.

Samuel Richardson Baptismal Record

BAPTISM solemnized in the Parish of Westmill in the Diocese of — and County of Hertford in the Year 1604. Alleged date of birth — When Baptized, December 22nd, 1604 Child's name, Samuell, Parents' Names, Thomas Richardson Abode, Westmill (?) Quality, Trade, or Profession (?) By whom the Ceremony was performed, Jacobus Taylor.

"I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the entry of the Baptism of Samuell Richardson in the Registry of Baptisms for the said Parish of Westmill.

Dated this sixth day of December, 1932.

Signed, A. G. King
 Clerk in Holy Orders &
 Curate in charge of Westmill

(Two 1 penny revenue stamps
 and endorsed, A. G. King
 December 6th, 1932)

Thomas Richardson Baptismal Record

BAPTISM solemnized in the Parish of Westmill in the Diocese of — and County of Hertford in the Year 1608. Alleged date of Birth (?) When Baptized, July 3, 1608 Child's name, Thomas, Parents' Names, Thomas Richardson Abode, Westmill (?) Quality, Trade or Profes-

sion (?) By whom the Ceremony was performed, Jacobus Taylor."

"I certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the entry of the Baptism of Thomas Richardson in the Registry of Baptisms for the said Parish of Westmill.

Dated this Sixth day of December, 1932.

Signed, A. G. King
Clerk in Holy Orders &
Curate in charge of Westmill

(Two 1 penny revenue stamps
endorsed, A. G. King
December 6th, 1932)

GENEALOGY OF ABIATHAR RICHARDSON

b. 1751 (Woburn, Mass.): d. 1806 (Jefferson, Me.)

First Generation in America, (Mother's Family)

Thomas Richardson, b. 1608 (Westmill, England): d. Aug. 28, 1651 (Woburn, Mass.).

Mary —

Married (England).

Child

Nathaniel, b. Jan. 2, 1650 (Woburn, Mass.):
d. Dec. 4, 1714.

Second Generation

Nathaniel Richardson, b. Jan 1, 1650: d. Dec. 4, 1714

Mary —

Married

Child

Phineas, b. Feb. 1693: d. Apr. 11, 1738

Third Generation

Lieut. Phineas Richardson, b. Feb. 1693: d. Apr. 11, 1738.

Rebecca Fowle, b. Nov. 21, 1706.

Married May 9, 1728.

Child

Dorothy Richardson, b. Mar. 31, 1733 (Woburn, Mass.).

Note - For further information concerning Dorothy Richardson see sketch of Abiathar Richardson b. 1751.

First Generation in America (Father's Family)

Samuel Richardson, b. 1604 (Westmill England): d. Mar. 23, 1658 (Woburn, Mass.).

Joanna —, b. (England).

Married (England)

Child

John, b. 1639 (Charleston, Mass.): d. Jan. 1, 1697 (Woburn, Mass.).

Second Generation

Lieut. John Richardson, b. 1639: d. Jan. 1, 1697.

Elizabeth Bacon, b. Jan. 4, 1641 (Woburn, Mass.).

Married Oct. 22, 1658.

Child

John, b. Jan. 24, 1660: d. Mar. 18, 1715.

Third Generation

John Richardson, b. Jan. 24, 1660: d. Mar. 18, 1715.

Susanna Davis, b. May 11, 1662: d. 1734.

Married Oct. 22, 1680.

Child

Timothy, b. July 24, 1687: d. June 29, 1735.

Fourth Generation

Timothy Richardson, b. July 24, 1687: d. June 29, 1735.

Abigail Johnson

Married Dec. 11, 1717.

Child

Abiathar b. Aug. 15, 1722 (Woburn, Mass.).

Fifth Generation

Abiathar Richardson, b. Aug. 15, 1722.

Dorothy Richardson b. Mar 31, 1733.

Married (Woburn, Mass.).

Child

Abiathar, b. 1751 (Woburn, Mass.): d. 1806
(Jefferson, Me.).

Sixth Generation

Abiathar Richardson, b. 1751: d 1806.

Ruth Young, b. (Pownalboro, Me.).

Married Apr. 19, 1778 (Woolwich, Me.).

Children

Abiathar, b. Oct. 14, 1780 (Jefferson, Me.).

d. Oct. 20, 1845. (Appleton, Me.).

Justice, b. July 9, 1782 (Jefferson, Me.). d. June
28, 1870 (Jefferson, Me.).

Ezra, b. Apr. 20, 1784 (Jefferson, Me.) d. (Jef-
ferson, Me.).

DESCENDANTS OF ABIATHAR RICHARDSON

(b. 1780)

Seventh Generation

Abiathar Richardson, b. Oct. 14, 1780: d. Oct. 20, 1845.

Hannah Jackson, b. Nov. 10, 1785.

Married

Children

Samuel, b. Oct. 6, 1803: d. Jan. 14, 1840.

Joseph, b. Aug. 4, 1806: d. Jan. 14, 1853.

Second wife Hannah Shepard, b. Sept. 5, 1797 (Waldoboro) d. Mar. 25, 1874.

Married Nov. 30, 1826.

Children

Abiathar S., b. Sept. 6, 1829: d. Aug. 30, 1861 in San Francisco; followed the sea from boyhood. He never married.

Hannah, b. Aug. 5, 1831: d. June 2, 1906.

Elizabeth, b. Mar. 24, 1833: d. July 12, 1905.

Sarah Maria, b. Nov. 18, 1835: d. Oct. 4, 1900.

John, b. May 20, 1838: d. July 27, 1865, immediately after his return from the Civil War.

Ruth Ann Barbara, b. Feb. 21, 1841: d. Mar. 21, 1922.

Eighth Generation

William Henry Pitman, b. Sept. 12, 1844: d. Dec. 5, 1925.

Ruth Ann Barbara Richardson, b. Feb. 21, 1841: d. Mar. 21, 1822.

Married Mar. 21, 1866

Children

Joseph Asbury, b. June 30, 1867: d. Aug. 27, 1952.

Lizzie Maria, b. Mar. 22, 1876: d. June 29, 1903.

Bernard Aubrey, b. Feb. 24, 1881.

Ninth Generation

Joseph Asbury Pitman, b. June 30, 1867: d. Aug. 27, 1952.

Flora Etta Carver, b. Aug. 4, 1867: d. Feb. 25, 1953.

Married July 23, 1890 (Belfast, Me.).

Children

Earle Carver, b. Oct. 10, 1893 (W. Boylston, Mass.).

Arthur Loring, b. Jan. 8, 1898. (Marlborough, Mass.).

DESCENDANTS OF JUSTUS RICHARDSON

Seventh Generation

Justus Richardson, b. July 9, 1782: d. June 28, 1870.

Jannet Bond, b. Jan. 31, 1783: d. Feb. 19, 1866.

Married July 9, 1807.

Children

Henry, b. Jan. 25, 1809: d. Mar. 9, 1868.

Mary Ann, b. Sept. 12, 1810: d. Nov. 15, 1833

Lorinda, b. Aug. 30, 1812: d. Dec. 15, 1895.

Albert, b. Dec. 21, 1814: d. Apr. 9, 1898.

James Young, b. Dec. 18, 1816.

Jannet G., b. July 11, 1819: d. Feb. 11, 1892.

Asa Bond, b. July 12, 1821: d. May 7, 1908.

Eighth Generation

Albert Richardson, b. Dec. 21, 1814: d. Apr. 9, 1898

Mary Ann Bond, b. June 17, 1813: d. Dec. 23, 1851.

Married June 13, 1843.

Children

Adelaide, b. Dec. 15, 1844: d. Apr. 27, 1850.

Amanda, b. Nov. 6, 1846: d. Apr. 28, 1850.

Marshall, b. Aug. 4, 1848: d. May 13, 1850.

Samuel Albert, b. Dec. 2, 1851: d. May 31, 1932.

Ninth Generation

Samuel Albert Richardson, b. Dec. 2, 1851: d. May 31, 1932.

Emilie Bennett Litchfield, b. Aug. 12, 1847: d. Nov. 1, 1912.

Married Dec. 16, 1874.

Children

Charles Albert, b. Dec. 17, 1875.

Mary Emilie, b. July 17, 1877.

Samuel Bond, b. Sept. 24, 1880.

Frank Cummings, b. July 6, 1886.

Tenth Generation

Charles Albert Richardson, b. Dec. 17, 1875.

Lillian Frances Hartigan, b. July 6, 1889.

Married Sept. 9, 1911 (Watertown, N. Y.).

Child

Albert John, b. Dec. 29, 1916 (Paterson, N. J.).

Eleventh Generation

Albert John Richardson, b. Dec. 29, 1916.

Leonette Lacz, b. May 14, 1920.

Married Dec. 22, 1940.

Children

Charles John, b. Jan. 16, 1944 (Englewood, N. J.)

Albert Gerald, b. Nov. 10, 1946 (Englewood, N. J.).

Leonette, b. Oct. 16, 1952 (Englewood, N. J.).

Tenth Generation

Samuel Bond Richardson, b. Sept. 24, 1880.

Flora Marie Hinds, b. Sept. 22, 1880: d. Nov. 11, 1931.

Married Sept. 27, 1906 (Calis, Me.).

Children

George Hinds, b. Sept. 8, 1907 (Southern Pines, N. C.).

Emilie Litchfield, b. Dec. 20, 1908 (Southern Pines, N. C.).

Dorothy Bond, b. Sept. 11, 1912 (Southern Pines, N. C.).

Ruth Morse, b. Jan. 17, 1919 (Southern Pines, N. C.).

Eleventh Generation

George Hinds Richardson, b. Sept. 8, 1907.

Dorothy Miriam Holmes, b. Feb. 25, 1910 (Doon, Iowa).

Married Apr. 4, 1933 (Washington, D. C.).

No children.

Eleventh Generation

John Adams Leland, b. Dec. 2, 1908 (Great Falls, South Carolina).

Emilie Litchfield Richardson, b. Dec. 2, 1908.

Married May 11, 1935 (Southern Pines, N. C.).

No children

Eleventh Generation

William Lower Wonderly, b. Mar. 10, 1916 (Mountain Lake Park, Md.).

Dorothy Bond Richardson, b. Sept. 11, 1912 (Southern Pines, N. C.).

Married Sept. 8, 1940 (Southern Pines, N. C.).

Children

Mary Emilie, b. Nov. 13, 1943 (Mexico City, Mexico).

George Richardson, b. Aug. 13, 1946 (Pinehurst, N. C.).

Samuel Earl, b. May 17, 1951 (Puebla, Mexico).

Carol Joy, b. Oct. 17, 1953 (Columbia, South Carolina).

Tenth Generation

Frank Cummings Richardson, b. July 6, 1886.

Margaret Mary Little, b. May 30, 1920.

Married Sept. 3, 1913 (Cannansburg, Pa.).

Children

Mary Elizabeth, b. June 24, 1915 (Cannansburg, Pa.).

James Little, b. Apr. 14, 1922 (Oswego, N. Y.).

Carol, b. Apr. 23, 1927 (Oswego, N. Y.).

Eleventh Generation

Harold Joseph Goldstine, b. Feb. 22, 1913 (Groton, N. Y.).

Mary Elizabeth Richardson, b. June 24, 1915.

Married May 29, 1934 (Oswego, N. Y.).

Child

James Robert Goldstine, b. Feb. 22, 1935 (Oswego, N. Y.).

Eleventh Generation

James Little Richardson, b. Apr. 14, 1922 (Oswego, N. Y.).

Norma Gray, b. Sept. 20, 1925 (Norfolk, Va.).

Married June 8, 1947 (Williamsburg, Va.).

Child

James Gray, b. Sept. 7, 1951 (Norfolk, Va.).

Eleventh Generation

John Baldwin Preston, b. Sept. 9, 1924 (Norfolk, Va.).

Carol Richardson, b. Apr. 23, 1927 (Oswego, N. Y.).

Married June 28, 1947 (Greenwood, Va.).

Child

Carol Preston, b. Aug. 12, 1951 (Knoxville, Tenn.).

DESCENDANTS OF EZRA RICHARDSON

Seventh Generation

3 Ezra Richardson, b. Apr. 20, 1784.

Mary Jackson, b. Mar. 6, 1787.

Married May 6, 1806.

Children

1C Sally, b. Nov. 6, 1806.

2C Abiathar, b. Aug. 29, 1809.

3C Joseph, b. Jan. 17, 1812.

- 4C Eunice, b. Dec. 25, 1814.
- 5C Hannah, b. Nov. 23, 1816.
- 6C Mary, b. June 9, 1819.
- 7C Judson, b. May 7, 1821.
- 8C Ruth, b. Aug. 1823.
- 9C Justus, b. Jan. 5, 1826.

Note - The descendants of Abiathar Richardson (b. 1751 Woburn, Massachusetts: d. 1806, Jefferson, Maine) and Ruth Young are now widely scattered. Although an estimate is likely to be far from correct, it is probable that they number well over one hundred, none of whom is at the present time a permanent resident of Jefferson, Maine. In compiling this partial genealogy, visits have been made to members of the family residing in several towns in Maine; Woburn, Massachusetts; Aurora, Iowa and Oakland, California; the town records of Jefferson, Whitefield, Washington and Woolwich, Maine have been searched; and information has been sought through correspondence. An attempt has been made to enable members of the family to trace their ancestry to their forebears who came from England to America early in the seventeenth century.

The search for information concerning the descendants of Abiathar Richardson, which has been carried on, often with long lapses of time, for over forty years, has resulted in a considerable mass of miscellaneous data. It is regretted that more of this material cannot be used in the preparation of the genealogy but the task seems too formidable to be undertaken. It is almost too much to hope that another descendant of Abiathar Richardson may, at some future time, take up the work where it is now being laid down, and use this material as a starting point from which to complete the genealogy.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF SOME MEMBERS OF THE RICHARDSON FAMILY INCLUDED IN THE GENEALOGY

JOSEPH ASBURY PITMAN was born in Appleton, Maine, June 30, 1867. His father was William Henry Pitman and his mother, Ruth Ann Pitman, was the youngest daughter of Abiathar Richardson (b. Jefferson, Maine, 1780.).

Mr. Pitman's early education was obtained in the schools of Appleton and in the Castine Normal School, from which he graduated in 1887. Later he did graduate work at Clark University, Harvard and Columbia. In 1929 he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Education from Rhode Island College of Education.

After his graduation from Castine Normal School, Mr. Pitman taught in the district schools of Maine for a short time. One of these schools was in Jefferson, Maine, the native town of his grandfather Abiathar Richardson. After teaching the school in Jefferson he decided to give up teaching and become a partner in the general store conducted at the North Village in Jefferson by his second cousin, Samuel Albert Richardson, under the firm name of Richardson and Pitman. During his stay in Jefferson, Mr. Pitman bought the house which is now the parsonage of the Baptist Church and married Miss Flora Etta Carver of Lincolnville, Maine, on July 23, 1890.

After living in Jefferson two years, Mr. Pitman accepted a position as principal of a grammar school in Millbury, Massachusetts in 1891. From this time, his

rise in the teaching profession was rapid. In 1892, now a young man only twenty-five years old, he was appointed superintendent of schools for six towns in central Massachusetts; later he became city superintendent of schools in Marlborough, Massachusetts.

On February 1, 1906, Mr. Pitman became principal of Salem Normal School. This was to be the great work of his life, extending over thirty-one years. Under his able administration the school grew from a normal school with an enrollment of 170 pupils to a state teachers' college with an enrollment of 500 and with a yearly waiting list of qualified students who could not be accommodated. Within the scope of this sketch, it is possible to give only a slight idea of the progress of the school under the direction of Dr. Pitman: new departments were added; the course was lengthened from two to four years, at the successful completion of which students received the degree of Bachelor of Science in Education.

Dr. Pitman retired in 1937. He and Mrs. Pitman returned to Maine and made their home in Belfast. Their friends always received a hearty welcome at their large house on Northport Avenue. Here they assembled a very interesting collection of rare antique furniture, many of the pieces having been restored by Dr. Pitman himself.

Even in retirement, Dr. Pitman's unusual fund of energy would not allow him to rest. He took an active part in the social and civic life of Belfast, being chairman of the committee for the sale of U. S. Savings Bonds during the second world war. The development of blueberry culture on the old Richardson farm where he was born was perhaps the most remarkable thing which he did during his retirement. After this farm came into his possession at the death of his parents,

Dr. Pitman kept the buildings in repair, sometimes spending his vacations there. The soil is stony and not very fertile but adapted to the growth of blueberries. Taking advantage of this and purchasing additional acreage, he established a very profitable blueberry farm, which he continued to operate until his death.

Dr. Pitman's life is an example of what can be accomplished by good living, enterprise and hard work. The small town in which he was born offered no advanced schooling or attractive business opportunities, yet, he overcame these disadvantages, rose to a prominent position in his profession and was universally recognized as a man of high principles and outstanding ability.

ABIATHAR RICHARDSON, who settled in 1778 in that section of Jefferson, Maine, known as the Mountain, was a descendant of two branches of the Richardson family. His father, whose name was also Abiathar Richardson, a descendant of Samuel Richardson, was born in Woburn, Massachusetts, August 13, 1722; his mother Dorothy Richardson, a descendant of Thomas Richardson, was born in Woburn March 13, 1733. Their son Abiathar was born at Woburn in 1751. Abiathar Richardson (b. 1722) died soon after the birth of his son.

In 1754 Dorothy Richardson married Jonathan Eames. Young Abiathar then became a member of the Eames family; and, with them, migrated from Woburn, Massachusetts to Woolwich, Maine before the Revolutionary War.

The "Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War" contains the following: "Abiathar Richardson enlisted as a private in the Revolutionary War, at Woolwich, Maine in Captain Isreal Davis' Com-

pany and Colonel Joseph Fry's Regiment." The records of Woolwich, Maine also state that Abiathar Richardson enlisted in the Continental Army while a resident of that town. In addition, these early records of Woolwich contain the following entries: "Abiathar Richardson formerly of Woolwich and Ruth Young Residing in P. Woolwich Intends marriage. Dated in Woolwich April 18th 1778" and "Abiathar Richardson and Ruth Young was married April 19, 1778." The marriage of Jonathan Eames, Jr., Abiathar Richardson's half-brother, and Thankful Young, Ruth Young's sister, is recorded in the same book. As the residence of Thankful Young is given as Pownalborough, it is probable that the Young family lived in that township, which later became Alna and Dresden.

Records of Abiathar Richardson's enlistment and his marriage indicate that he moved from Woolwich between the date of his discharge from the army, December 31, 1776, and April 19, 1778, the date of his marriage, as the records of Woolwich refer to him in this latter date as "formerly of Woolwich." These facts signify that he and the Eames family migrated from Woolwich to Ballstown (later Jefferson, Maine) in 1777.

When Jonathan Eames came to Ballstown, he laid claim to a large tract of land extending in a westerly direction from the Damariscotta Pond River including the site of the Jefferson grammar school and the road in front of it, which, at that time, had not been cut through the forest. The first house of the Eames family was built near the western bank of the river due east from the present schoolhouse.

Two sons were born to Jonathan Eames, Sr., and Dorothy Eames, née Richardson: Jonathan, Jr. (b. 1755) and Phineas (b. 1757). After his marriage Jonathan

Eames, Jr., moved to Somerset County, Maine. Phineas married Mary Jones in 1782. They always lived in Jefferson and had twelve children. Many of the families bearing the name of Ames, who have lived in Jefferson, are descendants of Phineas Eames.

After their marriage Abiathar Richardson and his wife made their home on the Mountain for the rest of their lives. They squatted on a rectangular strip of land three-eighths of a mile wide and nearly one and one-quarter miles long, containing 292 acres. The southeastern boundary of this area is the West Branch of the Damariscotta Pond River. From here it extends in a northwesterly direction to the top of the Mountain where the tower of the Maine State Forestry Service is now located. Abiathar Richardson established his title to this 292 acres by having it surveyed and a map drawn by "Josiah Jones, sworn surveyor." This map was filed and is still in the Lincoln County Court-house at Wiscasset, Maine.

The original Richardson house was built by Abiathar Richardson at about the time of his marriage in 1778. It was situated on the eastern side of the road opposite the large square frame house built on the Mountain by Justus Richardson in 1827.

When Abiathar Richardson and his wife began housekeeping, the 292 acres were covered by virgin forest. They spent much of their time clearing fields for raising crops and surrounding them with stone walls. They built a sawmill utilizing the water power furnished by the small stream forming the southeastern boundary of their farm. It is remarkable that in their struggle with mighty trees, stony soil and severe climate they were able not only to sustain themselves, but also to raise a family and improve their situation.

Abiathar and Ruth Richardson had three sons, Abiathar (b. 10-14-1780), Justus (b. 7-9-1782) and Ezra (b. 4-20-1784). Justus and Ezra Richardson made their homes in Jefferson; Abiathar, after living a few years on his part of his father's farm, moved to Appleton, Maine.

There is no record of the death of Abiathar or Ruth Richardson, but in the deed in which their sons Abiathar and Ezra Richardson conveyed the southwestern portion of their father's farm to their brother Justus, dated September 13, 1806, Abiathar Richardson (b. 1751) is referred to as "Abiathar Richardson late of Ballstown aforesaid, deceased". It is probable that Abiathar Richardson died in 1806 when he was about fifty-five years old and that Ruth Richardson died before her husband.

Ruth Richardson's death was so unusual that it was remembered for many years. She was subject to epileptic seizures. One day while alone in the house, a convulsion occurred while she was sitting before the fireplace. She fell into the fire and was so severely burned that it resulted in her death.

The old Eames house stood on the high southern bank of a sluggish creek near where it joins the Damariscotta Pond River. This creek surrounds about four acres of land known as the "Island". The northeastern point of this area is highest; it is here that the graveyard of the Eames and Richardson families is located. The graves were marked by flat fieldstones without any markings on them. Eight people were buried here, including Jonathan Eames, his wife, Dorothy Richardson, Abiathar Richardson and his wife Ruth Young. One of the graves is that of a child.

That the resting place of these pioneers may not be forgotten a modern stone marking their graves has been erected by the Richardson family.

ABIATHAR RICHARDSON (b. October 14, 1780: d. October 20, 1845) was born in Jefferson, Maine. His only formal education was obtained in the district schools of Jefferson, but that he was a self-educated man is evident from the prominent part taken by him in the affairs of the towns in which he lived.

In the division of his father's farm in 1806, Mr. Richardson received the northeastern portion containing about 112 acres. On this tract he built a house in which he lived until 1819 when he exchanged farms with William Meservey of Appleton, Maine, moved to that town and spent the rest of his life there.

Mr. Richardson was the first clerk of the Baptist Church in Jefferson, organized in 1807. The records of the business meetings are still preserved and show that he not only possessed remarkable skill as a penman, but also that he was not lacking in ability to compose well. The excellence of these records is amazing when we consider that they were written with a quill pen in a book from which the pages cannot be removed. He was licensed to preach by his home church, and on October 4, 1820, was ordained the first settled pastor of the Baptist Church in Appleton.

On September 10, 1813, he was commissioned captain of infantry of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and was in command of the local company of militia until September 20, 1816. After moving to Appleton, he was a farmer, lumberman, sawmill-owner and merchant. He also found time to serve as selectman, town treasurer and twice as a member of the Maine Legislature. Although engaged in these activities, he

continued as pastor of the church and also preached in outlying districts where there were no other religious services.

EZRA RICHARDSON, youngest son of Abiathar and Ruth Richardson, was born in Jefferson, Maine, April 20, 1784. When his father died in 1806, Ezra received a cash settlement: his two brothers, Abiathar and Justus, received portions of the farm on the Mountain in Jefferson.

Ezra Richardson Married Mary Jackson May 6, 1806. They made their home on a farm located on the west side of the road along the east side of Damariscotta Lake and about two miles north of the Jefferson-Nobleboro line. This farm was later occupied for many years by William Flagg.

That Mr. Richardson was a man of affairs as well as of a generous nature is indicated by the following incident. At one of the annual town meetings in Jefferson, he was chosen moderator. The moderator not only acted as the presiding officer of the meeting but also as auctioneer when the town paupers were auctioned off to the lowest bidder. A homeless boy, Isaac McCurda, was one of the number. Mr. Richardson felt so sorry for him that he took him home and reared him as one of his own children.

Ezra and Mary Richardson had ten children, nine of whom reached maturity. They and their progeny probably number as many as the descendants of Abiathar and Justus Richardson combined. Many of them have lived in Knox County but they are now widely scattered throughout the United States.

Ezra Richardson, his wife and several other members of the family are buried on the farm where they

lived. The graves, which are in the pasture near the barn, were marked with flat field stones bearing no names. It is now with great difficulty that any trace of the graves or markers can be found.



INDEX

A

Adventists, 113, 115
 Alford, Edwin R., 1, 264, 270
 Aurora, Iowa, 7
 Association, 92

B

Barton, Henry C., 2, 246
 Mary Ann, 1, 2, 31, 264
 Thomas Flint, M.D., 1, 150,
 184, 243, 244, 246
 Ballstown, 311, 313
 Baptisms, 163, 165, 203, 236
 Beecher, Henry Ward, 122, 167
 Besse, Mary, 26, 295
 Bond, Abial, 130, 134
 Emily 1, 10, 13, 228, 229, 232
 David, 34, 148
 Henry K., 59, 128, 234, 263
 Jennet, 19
 John N., 148, 174
 Samuel J., 3, 10
 Brooklyn, N. Y., 15, 120, 121

C

Carson City, 195, 198
 Chapman, Ella, 4, 295
 Horace, Sr., 87, 228
 Horace, Jr., 4, 295
 China Academy X, 8, 15, 18
 Chisam, the Rev. Samuel, 92,
 151, 157, 160
 Church, First Baptist, 13, 291
 Civil War, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204,
 205, 211, 215, 221, 222, 228,
 233
 Colby College, 2, 49, 52, 56, 57,
 68, 77, 127, 134, 179, 181
 Commission Business, 206, 219,
 243
 Conference, 97

D

Diphtheria, XI, 9, 61, 65, 66, 161,
 215, 217, 223, 224, 225, 226,
 228, 229, 232, 238
 Donation, 145
 Draft, 213, 228

E

Eames, Jonathan, Sr., 310, 311,
 313
 Jonathan, Jr., 80, 311
 Paul, 2, 149, 162
 Phineas, Sr., 2, 311, 312

F

Foster, Prof. John B., 57, 181

G

Gray, Peter, M.D., 32
 Gold, 55, 57, 58, 59, 72

H

Hamilton, Albert, 8
 Hoffses, George, 23
 Isaac, 130, 147, 192, 233
 Hopkins, Solomon, 5
 Houston, Sam, 200

J

Jackson, Lorinda, 5
 Samuel Waters, 5, 25, 32, 51,
 56
 Jefferson, Maine, IX, 71, 72, 79,
 90
 Jones, R. Elvin, 221, 230

K

Kennedy, Abiel Wood, M.D., 16,
 18, 32, 33, 46
 Kenney, Mary Edith, 7

L

Ladd, Benjamin, 148, 226, 230, 294
 Lake House, 278
 Lincoln County Fair, 165, 171, 276
 Linscott, Arad E., 291, 296
 Arad D., 213, 223
 Mellen, 254

M

Mines, 284, 285, 286, 287
 Montgomery, J. D., M.D., 271, 269, 270, 274

N

North Village, 3, 90
 Noyes, the Rev. Ely, 89

O

Old Town, 18
 Ovarian Cyst, XI, 150

P

Pitman, J. Asbury, Ed. D., 308, 297

Q

Quimby, Dr. 98

R

Richardson, Abbott, 6, 245, 258, 274
 Abiathar (b. 1722), 27, 310
 Abiathar (b. 1751), 310, 27, 307
 Abiathar (b. 1780), 314, 27, 301, 313
 Abiathar (b. 1809), 7, 27, 46, 264
 Abiathar S. (b. 1829), 27
 Albert, 8, 20, 66, 295
 Annie C., 14, 73, 107, 110
 Asa B., 15, 55, 119
 Charles A., 24, 273, 275, 288
 Dorothy, 310, 311, 313
 Eliza Ann, 16, 10, 11
 Emilie B., 17, 22
 Ezra, 315, 306, 313
 Frank C., 24
 Harriet O., 17, 19, 54, 57, 58, 74, 249
 Henry, 18, 248, 252, 253, 255

James Y., 18, 70, 72, 249, 260
 Justus, 19, 21, 25, 159, 261, 262, 313

Lucy, 18, 31, 32, 34, 37
 Mary Ann, 9, 32, 78
 Mary E., 24, 23, 288
 Salome, 21, 78, 255, 259
 Samuel Albert, 21, 4, 75, 79, 80, 83, 87, 88, 99, 102, 149, 177, 194, 288, 294
 Samuel B. 24, 288

Richardson Genealogy 297

S

St. Marks, Florida, 20, 41
 San Francisco, 54, 60
 Schooner "Coral", 20, 8, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 46
 Slavery, 68, 203
 Small Pox, XI, 69, 70, 234, 247, 268
 Stevens, the Rev. L. C., 25, 79

T

Tilley, the Rev. William, 76, 81, 84, 147, 154, 156, 214, 221
 Tuberculosis, XI, 26, 98, 103, 183, 190, 244
 Typhoid Fever, XI, 98, 154, 156, 165, 213, 220, 224

W

Waldoboro, 79, 145
 Washington, D. C., 15, 68
 Waters, Horace, 125, 126
 Waterville, Maine, 72, 77, 156
 Waterville College (See Colby)
 Weeks, Adelaide, 26
 Erastus F., 25
 Gilmore, 26
 Jennet, 26
 Myrick, 271
 West Jefferson, Maine, 5
 Wilson, Edwin P., 210, 230

Y

Young, Ruth, 311, 313

Unusual Letters

No. 3, 18, 19, 21, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, 38, 50, 54, 55, 59, 60, 79, 80, 85, 106, 109, 110, 124, 127, 138, 140, 152, 159, 171, 172, 173, 176, 190, 213

